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Iraq agree to direct weekend negotiations in Saudi Arabia

Saddam agrees to stop media attacks from today

IT'S OVER

UAE denies joint Gulf manoeuvres with US forces

BAGHDAD, July 25, (Agencies): Iraq and Kuwait will hold direct talks at the weekend to try to solve their dispute peacefully, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak announced today in Cairo.

He also said that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has agreed to stop propaganda attacks on Kuwait as of tomorrow.

In Baghdad, Saddam summoned United States Ambassador April Glaspie for talks.

Government radio, which reported the meeting, gave no details on the contents of the talks, which came amid a mounting anti-American

campaign in the Iraqi news media.

The talks between Kuwait and Iraq will probably begin on Saturday or Sunday, Mubarak said in Cairo.

Mubarak was reviewing the outcome of his mediation efforts that took him to Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia yesterday.

Mubarak was speaking to reporters at the beginning of a ceremony marking graduations of some army and police officers.

"The problem does not need arbitration. President Saddam agreed to stop the media attacks starting tomorrow," Mubarak said.

"Two delegations from both sides will sit and discuss the problem. Of course it will take several meetings," he said.



Kuwait Oil Minister Al Ameer (second from right) with other ministers (Reuters wirephoto)

reasonable price hike



YSL show

An Yves St Laurent model wears a creation adorned with pheasant feathers in orange, red and yellow as part of the YSL autumn-winter haute couture show. (Reuters wirephoto)

\$25 tag too high

Opec skirts row

GENEVA, July 25, (Agencies): Kuwait, ahead of Opec talks in Geneva, said today an Iraqi call for the cartel to proclaim \$25 a barrel as its target oil price was unreasonable.

The Kuwaiti Oil Minister, Dr Rashid Salem Al Ameer, was the first Opec minister to say publicly in the conference lobby that he did not think Iraq's price goal was realistic.

But Al Ameer did sound a conciliatory note in also saying he did not insist that Kuwait should be assigned a higher Opec production quota for the October-December quarter of this year.

Oil ministers officially disregarded tension between member states Iraq and Kuwait and conducted business as usual before a mid-year conference on boosting production and prices.

Consensus

The 13 ministers shrugged off questions about the Gulf confrontation and told reporters that agreement was emerging to raise the cartel's reference oil price from \$18 to \$20 a barrel.

Several delegates, emerging from the preparatory talks, nodded or said "yes" when asked if they had reached a consensus to raise the reference price to \$20 a barrel.

The United Arab Emirates' Oil Minister, Mansur Al Otaibi, said "the UAE will support the increase but will not agree to a higher price."

Iraq's Minister, Issam Abdul-Rahim Al Chalabi said yesterday that Opec ministerial committee talks starting in Geneva should reach an agreement on a new output ceiling which should not rise until average spot prices attain \$25 — compared with some \$17.50 now.

Delegates said that the Kuwaitis and other Opec pricing moderates including Saudi Arabia would not favour the \$25 proposal.

Review

Asked about it by lobby reporters today, Al Ameer said: "The price is not reasonable."

But he also said that, while wanting to examine the possibility of a higher Kuwaiti quota later in the year, "Kuwait will not insist on a fourth-quarter increase for itself."

The Kuwaiti minister said "I hope not" when asked if the crisis in the Gulf with Iraq would derail the Opec meeting.

The 13 ministers meet later today to review the market as Opec's Market Monitoring Committee before a plenary session of their biannual conference tomorrow.

Opec President Sadek Boussena has said a broad consensus exists on setting a new ceiling on total Opec output at 22.5 million barrels daily of crude oil.

Oil prices are already headed higher.

Opec secretary-general Subroto of Indonesia today calculated the average spot price of a "basket" of seven crude oils by which Opec measures the strength of the market had risen to nearly \$17.50, from around \$14 in June.

Prices are up on fears about the tensions in the Gulf.

Historic

According to Mehdi Varzi, an analyst who follows Opec for Kleinwort Benson Securities in London, the coming Opec talks may come to be seen "as a historic turning point."

Opec had been dominated for several years by advocates of low prices as a stimulant to demand, he said. But Iraq was trying to shift the emphasis towards firmer prices.

Unlike the monarchies of the Arabian Peninsula, including Saudi Arabia, but like most other oil producers in and outside Opec, Iraq lacks the production capacity to be able to make more money just by raising output. It needs stronger prices.

Iraq is escalating its demands. There may be no consensus in Geneva on \$25 but Iraq will not go away and be silent," Varzi said. "The pressure on Kuwait and the UAE and ultimately on Saudi Arabia will remain."

Iran's Oil Minister, Gholamreza Azadeh, appeared to engage room for a compromise on the issue of how high to set Opec's reference price.

He told lobby reporters in Geneva: "In my opinion, I am sure the conference will increase the price. Maybe the minimum will be 20, maybe more than 20."

"I am very sure that soon we will have a very strong resolution on this."

"We are only talking about oil, not politics," Azadeh told reporters during a break in preparatory talks.

"There is a very good atmosphere and everybody is trying their best to increase prices," he said.

Lobbying

Meanwhile, Al Ameer, today continued his consultative meetings with other Opec oil ministers here, before the start of the meeting of the Market Monitoring Committee, scheduled for later this afternoon and the full Opec conference opening tomorrow.

Dr Ameer told Kuna his meetings with other ministers were of a general nature, to discuss various developments in the oil market and also to assess the future prospects.

The Kuwaiti oil minister has met with his counterparts from Nigeria, Venezuela, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Algeria, among others.

Accosted by a crowd of journalists while passing through the hotel

The Amir briefs cabinet on row

KUWAIT, July 25, (Kuna): HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah today briefed the Council of Ministers on the outcome of the contacts being exerted by Arab leaders to contain the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute.

Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Abdul Rahman Al Awadi said HH the Amir also briefed the cabinet on his "positive" meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak who visited Kuwait yesterday within the framework of a tour that also took him to Baghdad and Jeddah.

In light of Arab efforts and contacts, Al Awadi said Kuwait rejects the method of pressure and intimidation and reaffirms its belief for pursuing the method of brotherly dialogue to resolve all differences between the Arabs.

He added that Kuwait expresses its appreciation for the sincere efforts being exerted by King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to contain the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute and to reach a just and lasting solution to the dispute which maintains the legitimate rights for both sides in accordance with the international and Arab charters.

According to the Kuwaiti minister, Kuwait expresses hope that the sincere Arab efforts would come out with positive results which restore the natural relations between Kuwait and Iraq and to end the differences which will keep the Arab nation away from divisions and ruptures and strengthen Arab solidarity.



Surprise choice

Bishop George Carey holds his two grandchildren, after being named as next archbishop of Canterbury Carey, 54, bishop of Bath and Wells for the past three years, was a surprise choice to succeed current Archbishop Robert Runcie. (Reuters wirephoto)

(Story Page 5)

(Continued on Page 13)

Currency Rates

THE Central Bank of Kuwait currency rates against the Kuwaiti dinar on July 25, valued for July 27, 1990.

Currency	Buying	Selling
US dollar	289.47	290.62
Sterling	523.69	525.07
Deutsche mark	178.19	179.01
Swiss franc	209.38	210.37
French franc	053.13	053.36
Italian lire	0002434	0002446
Japanese yen	001043	001051
Bahraini dinar	767.82	771.08
Qatari riyal	079.49	079.88
Saudi riyal	077.17	077.50
Omani riyal	751.67	755.16
UAE dirham	078.80	079.14

Asian currency exchange rates against Kuwaiti dinar:

Currency	GD	GOLD PRICES	GD
Indian Rs (1,000)	16.600	One kg. 999	3,455,000
Pak. Rs	13.360	One kg. 995	3,445,000
Sri Lankan Rs	7.260	22 kt. per gm.	3,550
Singapore dollar	160.00	21 kt. per gm.	3,500
Hong Kong dollar	37.40	18 kt. per gm.	3,450
Bangladesh taka	9.678	10 tola gold	404,000
Philippine peso	12.620	One ounce gold	112,000

Courtesy: Abdulaziz & Ali Al Yousif Al Muzaini Co.

■ The dollar ended European dealings Wednesday lower, although the US currency posted gains against a weakened British pound and a nervous yen.

Gold rose in Europe, helped by a weaker US dollar and industrial demand.

In Tokyo, the dollar fell to a closing 149.13 Japanese yen from 148.70 yen at Tuesday's close. Later, in London, it rose to 148.75 yen.

In London, the British pound fell to \$1.8125 from \$1.8250 late Tuesday.

Other late dollar rates in Europe, compared with late Tuesday.

- 1.6170 West German marks, down from 1.6185
- 1.3715 Swiss francs, down from 1.3750
- 5.4185 French francs, down from 5.4275
- 1.8215 Dutch guilders, down from 1.8230
- 1.1518 Canadian dollars, down from 1.1557

Gold rose in London to a late bid price of \$373.25 a troy ounce, up from \$368.25, bid late Tuesday.

In Zurich, gold rose to a closing bid of \$372.50, up from \$368.35 bid late Tuesday.

Israel beefs up forces in south Lebanon as rival Shiite militias battle on

SIDON, July 25, (Reuters): Israel has reinforced its self-declared security zone in south Lebanon where Shiite Muslim militias are fighting a 10-day old war, security sources said today.

They said a column of about 30 Israeli military vehicles, including Merkava tanks and US-made M-113 armoured personnel carriers, crossed into Lebanese territory late yesterday and took up positions in the security zone.

Israeli troops also brought 155 mm and 175 mm artillery batteries into the area, the sources said.

The reinforcements were deployed near Marjayoun, eight km (five miles) north of Israel, and in the village of Kfar Houneh overlooking the Iqim Al Toufah area where battles between Amal and Hezbollah forces have killed 144 people and wounded 439.

The pro-Iranian Hezbollah and Syrian-backed Amal, vying for leadership of Lebanon's 1.3 million Shiites, fought with machine-guns, mortars and rockets today around the village of Jarjouh, the sources said.

At least five combatants were killed and 12 wounded, police said today.

Police said no fresh attacks were mounted by the Syrian-backed Amal militia to recapture Jarjouh.

Jarjouh was the scene of ferocious hand-to-hand battles yesterday when Amal militiamen and their leftist Lebanese allies launched a large-scale offensive to oust Hezbollah militants who captured the village from Amal on July 16.

The Hezbollah forces repulsed the assault in a battle that killed 23 people and wounded 60.

Israel occupied the 15-km (nine-mile) deep security zone

in Lebanon in 1985 in what it said was a measure to prevent attacks against its northern settlements. The trip is patrolled by 1,000 Israeli troops and some 1,500 Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia.

About 600 fighters loyal to Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organisation were sent into Iqim Al Toufah last week in a bid to quell the violence.

Israeli gunners and the SLA have been pounding Amal, Hezbollah and Palestinian positions in the region for more than a week.

INTERNATIONAL

India's most wanted man haunts forbidding jungles

GOPINATHAM, India, July 25, (AP): He haunts the forbidding jungles of south India with his band of thieves, slaughtering elephants for their ivory and smuggling tons of fragrant sandalwood. Police want him for the murders of 20 policemen and forest officers.

Residents in this poor village of iron-red earth worship him as a Robin Hood and priest. He's built them temples, stocked a reservoir with fish and attends wedding ceremonies incognito, presenting newlyweds with gifts. He appears to have friends in high places and once escaped police custody reportedly by paying a \$17,000 bribe.

His only name is Veerappan. He's India's most wanted man.

In April, after the killings of four police officers, two southern states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu formed a task force of more than 8,000 officers to catch him. The manhunt, Operation Snap, is the biggest in India's 43 years as an independent country.

The investigation in Karnataka is led by K. U. Shetty, a 51-year-old inspector-general of police with a regal bearing and a shock of white hair. Shetty uses two helicopters, night vision devices, jeeps, automatic weapons and high-tech communications equipment. They recently took over Veerappan's home town of Gopinatham, turning the local elementary school into their headquarters.

In Tamil Nadu, superintendent of police

Krishnaswami Gopalakrishnan wants Veerappan dead. Gopalakrishnan, a 36-year-old former karate instructor with a penchant for gold chains, has formed a band of 14 highly-trained men — dubbed "The liquidators" — for the task.

"I don't need all that fancy stuff like helicopters," he said in an interview several days after emerging from a three-week hunt in the jungle. "We're just going to blow him away."

Gopalakrishnan's men recently gave him a brass statue of Sir Lancelot, the legendary British knight, "to motivate me to slay the dragon," he said with a loud laugh.

So far Veerappan remains on the run in the

forests, often sleeping in two places during the night.

The 38-year-old outlaw, known for his thick black moustache and protruding Adam's apple, had a jungle wedding in January to his pregnant teen-age fiancée. The girl, a shepherd's daughter, gave birth to a son in June and police say she was walking a day later.

Soon afterwards, Veerappan allegedly killed again in his home town, Gopinatham. While more than 250 officers slept in barracks 50 feet away, someone crept into the house of an alleged police informant at 3:15 am and shot him as he slept.

Police call Veerappan a one-man ecological

disaster. In his two decades in the jungle, they say he has killed 500 elephants for their tusks and smuggled out thousands of tons of sandalwood, which is used for oils, soap and furniture. It is sent mostly to the Middle East.

The main problem in catching Veerappan is that few villagers are willing to help, police say.

When they do, horrible things happen.

In January 1989, Veerappan invited five men whom he suspected were police informers to a village feast. As they washed their hands before the meal, police say Veerappan stood behind them with an elephant gun and fired. His men later chopped the bodies into

pieces and floated them down the nearby Cauvery River in gunny sacks.

"I will say nothing about Veerappan except that he's a good man and pays well," said Kumar Gounder, an elderly villager in Gopinatham who cuts sandalwood for the fugitive. "When my child was sick he gave me medicine."

Numerous news reports say Veerappan and his smuggling ring are linked to officials in Karnataka state who profit from his schemes. In March, the respected Times of India reported that Veerappan sent state police officers a letter, agreeing to turn himself in if two state assemblymen were arrested.



Karyn Smith in police car

A British photographer takes pictures of Karyn Smith sitting in a police car (left) on arrival at Bangkok's criminal court and Eric Smith (picture right), father of Karyn, talks to his daughter through gates in a detention cell in Bangkok after



she was arrested on suspicion of heroin smuggling charges last week. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sri Lankan troops capture towns

COLOMBO, July 25, (AP): Government troops captured two towns outside the Jaffna peninsula and opened a major road into the Tamil rebel stronghold, military officials said today.

At least 96 rebels and 13 soldiers were killed in the three-day operation that led to the control of Paranthan and Kilinochchi by dusk yesterday, said the officials. Forty-seven militants were killed in Kilinochchi, they said.

Kilinochchi, 5 kilometres (3 miles) south of Paranthan, is linked by a national highway to the town of Jaffna, headquarters of the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

Government paratroopers took Paranthan on Monday after fierce fighting. The troops then moved to Kilinochchi, establishing control of the highway, said the officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules.

The government troops also control the highway north of Paranthan up to the town of Elephant pass, located just inside the peninsula.

"Having secured Paranthan, troops established a link between Kilinochchi, Paranthan and Ele-

phant Pass," said a senior military official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Elephant Pass is 50 kilometres (30 miles) south-east of Jaffna and 300 kilometres (185 miles) north of Colombo.

The town is at the northern end of the Elephant Pass causeway across the Jaffna lagoon, which links the mainland with the peninsula.

The rebels blew up the causeway last week in an effort to intensify their stranglehold on the peninsula, but military officials said it was repaired over the weekend.

On Tuesday, the militants raided a small Sinhalese colony in the northeastern district of Polonnaruwa and killed eight Sinhalese as they slept, military officials said.

The victims, four men, two women and two children, were hacked and shot, they said.

Also yesterday, the rebels raided a mosque and killed two Muslims in the eastern town of Sammanthurai, accusing them of being military informers, said the officials.

Tamil militants have been fighting for an

independent homeland since 1983, saying they are victims of discrimination in jobs and education by the majority Sinhalese.

Tamils make up 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people. The Sinhalese, who control the government and the military, comprise 75 per cent.

According to a press release issued by the Sri Lankan embassy in Kuwait, the European Economic Community countries passed the following resolution.

"The twelve wish to express their deep concern at the current deterioration of the situation in Sri Lanka. They deplore the refusal of the LTTE to continue negotiations and its decision to renew fighting in the north and east of the country which both causes great suffering among the civilian population and leads thousands of people to seek refuge in other areas.

In conformity with President Premadasa's appeal for consultation, compromise and consensus, they hope that a peaceful solution will be found to the domestic problems of the island with the object of safeguarding the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of Sri Lanka."

Singh wins Soviet backing

Kashmir an integral part of India

MOSCOW, July 25, (Reuter): India won strong Kremlin support on Tuesday for its bloody struggle with Muslim secessionists in Kashmir.

The Soviet news agency Tass said President Mikhail Gorbachev expressed "complete understanding and support" to visiting Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh over the north Indian state, where more than 900 people have been killed in the past few months.

Singh countered with backing for Gorbachev's struggle to hold his own multi-racial state together in against secessionists in many of its 15 republics.

A new large-scale economic treaty will be negotiated and signed during Gorbachev's next visit to India. He has already made two visits since coming to power in 1985.

The Indian officials said both Gorbachev and Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov had told Singh they agreed that Jammu and Kashmir was an integral part of India. They had also complained to Pakistan and its close ally the United States over alleged Pakistani interference in the Himalayan state.

The Islamabad government, while strongly supporting Kashmiri self-determination, has repeatedly denied interfering but the issue had stoked fears of a fourth Indo-Pakistan war.

Militants in Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, want a referendum on their future, with some seeking union with Islamic Pakistan and others demanding independence.

Gorbachev and Singh also agreed on Afghanistan where they are again at odds with Pakistan over their support for President Najibullah's government against US-backed rebels.

Singh flew to Tashkent, in Soviet Central Asia today, and visits "the ancient cities" of Samarkand and Bokhara before returning to New Delhi on Thursday.

The Kremlin has cited the visit as evidence of its continuing interest in its old friends in the Third World, despite its current preoccupation to open up to the West.

The Tass news agency described Singh's talks yesterday in the Kremlin with Gorbachev as the "cornerstone of (Singh's) second day" in the Soviet Union.

Gorbachev told reporters that Singh's visit was of "significant importance" and stressed that Indo-Soviet relations would continue progressing.

The two leaders' exchanges had tackled a wide-ranging agenda of bilateral and global questions, during which, Tass said, they hailed the international positive changes and East-West détente.

They further expressed the wish to extend the Soviet-Indian treaty of peace, friendship and co-operation and tentatively agreed that the economic agreement should be signed and the treaty, which expires in 1991, renewed during Gorbachev's next visit to New Delhi.



Sikhs flee

A Sikh migrant shouts anti-Pakistan slogans as nearly 400 refugees from India's Jammu and Kashmir march towards V.P. Singh's residence in New Delhi to demand compensation. More than 75,000 Hindus and Sikhs have fled the Kashmir valley since January in fear of fighting. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sikh militants kill five Hindus

AMRITSAR, July 25, (AP): Sikh militants burst into a Hindu temple during evening prayers and opened fire with automatic rifles, killing five worshippers and injuring at least 14 others, police said today.

At least 40 people were in the temple and its gates were unguarded when the attack took place yesterday in the Punjab town of Bhatinda, said police superintendent Rajinder Singh.

Four militants entered the building, spread out and fired at the congregation, then escaped, he said.



V.P. Singh (left) meets with Gorbachev during a ceremony in St. George's Hall in the Kremlin. (Reuter wirephoto)

'Singh govt is shaky'

Rajiv tells partymen to get ready

NEW DELHI, July 25, (AP): Rajiv Gandhi, dressed in an informal loose cotton shirt and white trousers, sat cross-legged on a cushioned stage and listened almost impassively to praise of his work.

During a three-day party convention that ended yesterday, there was no criticism of the man who last year led his Congress Party to a second electoral defeat since India gained independence

from Britain 43 years ago. The meeting, the first since the party fell from power, looked like phase one in Gandhi's attempted comeback.

At the conference, Gandhi said his party was not "concentrating its energy" on bringing down the Singh government, but it should be

Fiji adopts new constitution

SUVA, Fiji, July 25, (AP): Fiji today adopted a constitution that guarantees indigenous Melanesian Fijians a legislative majority, a move that had been vehemently condemned by the largely Indian-backed coalition party.

President Ratu Sir Penita Ganiolu, in a nationally broadcast speech following cabinet approval of the constitution, said it would "immediately take effect as the supreme law of the land." He added that he hoped elections, with voting along communal lines, would be held next year.

The document, which has yet to be released publicly, guarantees indigenous Melanesian Fijians a majority in both houses of a new Parliament, thus entrenching the stated goals of two 1987 coups that ousted the coalition party.

Ganiolu claimed it also will uphold the rights of other races by including protections for human rights.

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طريق امتحان

Three doctors study 63 dead men and 37 dead women

Statistical link in lifelines detected in Bristol

LONDON, July 25, (UPI): A study of the hands of 100 corpses revealed a "highly significant association" between the age of the deceased and the lifelines traversing the dead palms, the Royal Society of Medicine said yesterday.

The monthly journal of the prestigious institution reported that three doctors in Bristol had studied 63 dead men and 37 dead women and discovered some sort of scientific foundation to palmistry.

"We have found a strong statistical correlation, particularly for the right hand, and the age of death," the article in the August edition said. "A highly significant association between the two was discovered which was strengthened further when the hand size was controlled."

The investigators went to 100 consecutive autopsies, at which a coroner would prise open the hands of the corpses aged between 30 and 90.

They devised a ratio for balancing a subject's hand size to its actual lifetime and then assessed what age the lifeline represented.

Another researcher not involved in the data collection and uninformed of the hypothesis being pursued analyzed the material and matched these figures to hospital records of the age of the deceased.

The journal displayed the findings on a

graph, on which the scattering of dots representing lifetime ratios were closely clustered around a line representing actual age at death.

Those with short lifelines died young, and those with longer lifelines lived into old age, the article said.

The researchers acknowledge that their findings could be pure chance, but drew some ironical conclusions about the

implications if lifelines are a true reflection of life expectancy.

"Such findings would have important financial and ethical considerations for the use of resources in a cash-limited health service, not to mention plastic surgeons who may wish to extend their private practice and their patient's lifelines," the journal said.

"It would, moreover, be a handsome gesture, and augur well for future relation-

ships with general managers, if the diagnostic dexterity of a glance at the hands (to see whether an illness is the patient's last) where to dispense with these costly blood tests and X-rays," it said.

Palmistry was popular in ancient China and India. One of its most famous adherents was Cheiro, who was renowned for correctly forecasting the death dates of Queen Victoria and King Edward VII by looking at their palms.



High fashion

An Emmanuel Ungaro model wears a tightly fitting flowered silk over finely pleated sheath during the Autumn-Winter 1990/91 High Fashion collection on July 24. (Reuters wirephoto)

Fashion turns solid gold

Showing more leg than ever

PARIS, July 25, (AP): The only thread that binds the couturiers in this week's haute couture shows for next winter is solid gold. From Ungaro to Chanel, gold glimmered in yesterday's raft of rich clothes—showing more leg than ever on runways.

Offstage, meanwhile, the news was the resignation of Erik Mortensen from the House of Balmain after 40 years there. He had been head designer since 1983 following the death of Pierre Balmain.

A spokesman for Balmain said the Danish-born Mortensen and the house's president since last winter, Alain Chevalier, had reached an amicable agreement to call it quits. Chevalier planned to announce today the designer he has chosen to head the couture department.

On the runways, Claude Montana made a hit at Lanvin for his nearly sculpted clothes after a miss in his first try for the prestigious house last winter. This time he laid on luxury in his fabulous full shortie trapeze coats, his lean pants and touches of sable in the right places.

His midnight blue, mink-lined greatcoat with its enormous funnel sleeves or his very full vermilion coat with a pink heavy stole wrapped at the neck were outstanding.

Then he would slim things down with beautifully fitted "grain de poudre" pants and fitted jackets or put a sparkly anthracite silver pullover over a beautifully draped gray flannel skirt.

His long vermilion opera dress—cut away to reveal legs in front—with its gold-embroidered touches was a feast for the eye, and looked like a good combination of Lanvin opulence with Montana daring.

At Chanel, Karl Lagerfeld seemed to stumble somewhere between the 1960s and his favourite 18th century. Mini-suits over thigh boots recalled 1960s stars like Brigitte Bardot, even though the suits were piped and decorated with shiny buttons à la Chanel.

There were, indeed, some lovely jackets piped in gros-grain, fitted more snugly than ever. And some of the piped high empire tops were fetching in black and white.

The mini-dresses, closely-draped like Venetian curtain swagging, were better with hot-coloured jackets rather than slung with hip belts and topped with a glitzy gold pullover. Some of the décolleté-jackets fastened with a camellia had a nice feminine Chanel touch.

But when showman Lagerfeld lays on a show as he did at an overcrowded Champs-Élysées cinema, he can go overboard, as the girl wearing the bridal gown nearly did when she stumbled out of the gondola that glided on stage at the show's end.

The workmanship on the pretty light blue and coral jeweled satin ball gown was gorgeous, as were the legs on the girl wearing the dress which split to show a mini and satin boots underneath. But the lace infant dresses with their hooped hips were better left in the dressing rooms.

As Emmanuel Ungaro went back to his normal flamboyance after his last, quieter show, he too threaded his clothes with gold. And anybody with a small fortune would love the quilted gold, loose evening jackets.

Some of the suits with their fitted brocade vests, satin blouses and checked stoles banded in colour looked superbly rich, in good taste, but hardly subdued.

Ungaro kept his day-wear exuberance in check with knee-baring skirts in pretty gray-flecked fabrics, sometimes piped in black velvet or topped with tasseled passementerie stoles. The silhouettes were close to the body but not constricted.

Louis Feraud had a circus with themes like jeweled circus-horse embroideries whirled throughout some of the fitted black cocktail outfits. But even better in evening wear was the long metallic lame gunmetal strapless gown with its nail head decor topped by a silvery gray organza duster.

Philippe Venet, meanwhile, turned out a small but smart collection in which coats and evening wear starred as they often do here. A bubble-shaped emerald coat or a smart fitted geranium coat opening over a satin tunic and lean black velvet trousers showed the subtle way velvet can make clothes look both dressy and possible for street wear.

NEW YORK: Maria Maples, the woman who has been romantically linked to millionaire developer Donald Trump, says his estranged wife, Ivana, is a cold woman who is neglecting her children.

Ivana is "out every night in London and New York, going on dates to her society parties, while Donald is home raising the children," Maples said in an interview published Tuesday in the Daily News.

Mrs Trump disputed the charges. "I see my children every single day," she said through spokeswoman Lisa Calandra. "Donald sees them once a week at most—and has gone weeks on end without seeing them at all."

Maples claims she's not responsible for the Trump's separation. "I had nothing to do with Donald's marriage. I'm not a homewrecker."

Mrs Trump, who is seeking half her husband's assets, said in court papers that she had been aware of her husband's "adultery and philandering," she would not have entered into a contract limiting her to \$25 million and a \$7-million mansion in the event of a split. (AP)

WOLSEY, South Dakota: You've heard of pennies from heaven. Would you believe enough to buy a new car?

That's roughly how much money Robert and Wilma Eckhardt got recently for selling a 160-pound (72-kilogram) meteorite found on their land nine years ago.

The couple won't say exactly how much they were paid by Martin Citz, a collector from Montana. But Mrs Eckhardt says it was "a large amount" and agrees that comparing it to the price of a new small car is fair.

"It's probably the best crop we ever took off our farm," she said. The meteorite, about the size of two soccer balls, was found on their farm in eastern south Dakota by their oldest son Bruce, when the disc harrow he was using to prepare a field caught the object and rolled it over. South Dakota is in the north-central United States.

On July 24, the meteorite fell to Earth about 2,200 years ago, Mrs Eckhardt says. Citz indicated the meteorite likely will be cut into pieces to be sold to collectors. (AP)

ALLENTOWN, Pennsylvania: A north Carolina man has passed the half-way mark in an attempt to become the first blind man to walk the 2,143-mile (3,448-kilometre) Appalachian trail.

The trail runs along the spine of the Appalachian mountains.

Since he left Georgia, the southern end of the trail, on March 9, Bill Irwin has trekked more than 1,200 miles (1,930 kilometres) over some of the roughest terrain in the eastern United States. He plans to reach his home in Allentown, the northern end of the trail, by early October.

Irwin, 49, is hiking with his guide dog, Orient. He entered Pennsylvania more than three weeks ago and is expected to cross into New Jersey sometime this week.

Irwin, a Christian counselor in Burlington, north Carolina, lost his sight to a degenerative eye disease at age 28. He said the hike is a way of showing people the power of faith. "I feel like I was called by God to do it," he told the Morning Call of Allentown. (AP)

OAK HILL, North Carolina: George Gross got more than a few vegetables when he went gardening this week. He pulled up a one-carrot diamond ring.

The retired high school biology teacher was pulling carrots on Monday when he found the ring, which he'd lost about a year ago. It was buried in the ground with a carrot growing right through it.

Gross said the ring, a cluster of small diamonds, was a Christmas gift from a friend, Ruby Ledford. Since losing it, he had looked everywhere, not only hunting through his house but using a metal detector to search his yard and garden.

He said he found plenty of nuts, bolts and nails, but no ring. Ms Ledford presented him with another ring, but Gross said he missed the original gift "because it was so special to me."

After finding the old ring, Gross said he asked Ms Ledford if he had to give one ring back.

"She couldn't believe that I found it," he said. "She said I could keep both rings." (AP)

Clue to Alzheimer disease found

BAR HARBOR, Maine, July 25, (AP): The discovery of a genetic defect that may cause most cases of Alzheimer's disease could someday lead to a treatment, researchers say.

"We're anxiously following this, and if it's true it would be quite significant," said Creighton Phelps, vice-president of Medical and Scientific Affairs at the National Alzheimer's Association in Chicago.

Yesterday, Dr. Allen Roses of the Duke University medical school in North Carolina said he found a genetic abnormality that may cause the most common form of Alzheimer's disease, which afflicts about 4 million Americans.

The finding surprised most researchers studying the disease's genetics. They have been busily investigating a different abnormality.

"We're betting the output of our laboratory" that the new abnormality is the cause of all but a rare form of Alzheimer's, Roses said.

In a presentation at the Jackson laboratory in Bar Harbor, Roses said that based on his study of 32 families in which Alzheimer's is prevalent, the disease appears to be linked to an abnormality on chromosome 19, one of the 23 pairs of human chromosomes.

Previous studies found a defect on chromosome 21 linked to an early-onset form of Alzheimer's in which memory loss and other symptoms begin to appear around age 40. That form of the disease has been found in only 10 or 20 families in the world, Roses said.

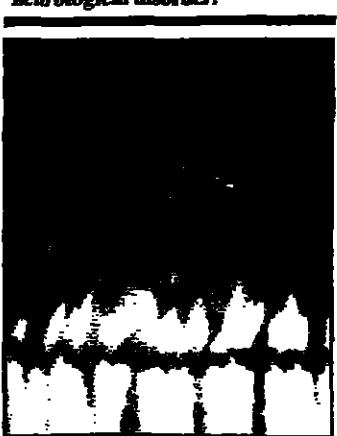
It could turn out that the early-onset form of Alzheimer's is a different disease. Roses used his genetic samples for a defect on chromosome 21 in late-onset Alzheimer's disease and couldn't find it.

The idea that chromosome 21 is linked to the disease was so powerful that Roses said he has had difficulty persuading others that chromosome 21 may not be the culprit in most cases. He said he has been frustrated in efforts to publish his findings in a scientific journal.

Other researchers are now rapidly trying to determine whether their genetic samples from Alzheimer's victims also reveal an abnormality on chromosome 19, said Dr. Peter St. George-Hyslop of Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. He is one of the discoverers of the defect on chromosome 21.

"The follow-up studies need to be done," St. George-Hyslop said. "This area of genetics of late-onset neurological disease is extremely difficult to do."

Fixing the genetic defect is a crucial first step toward figuring out precisely what goes wrong in Alzheimer's disease and perhaps how to fix it. No cause or cure is known for the progressive neurological disorder.



American jazz musician Dizzy Gillespie helps celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Antibes jazz festival on Tuesday with a blow to the candles on a cake made for the occasion. (Reuters wirephoto)

New moon around Saturn
US researcher discovers

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California, July 25, (UPI): A new moon only 12 miles (19 km) in a diameter has been discovered orbiting the planet Saturn, NASA announced.

The tiny object was found by Mark Showalter, a planetary scientist, in analysis of pictures taken 9 years ago by the Voyager 2 spacecraft. The new moon appeared as a small bright spot on 11 pictures out of 25 candidates spewed out in a computer search of 30,000 images.

Showalter's computer programme knew what to look for because the moon's presence had been predicted.

Saturn is 700 times bigger in volume than Earth, and is the third planet out from Earth. It orbits 886 million miles (1,426 million km) away within several snow white rings.

The new moon was predicted because of a disturbance in a 200-mile-wide (320-km) gap in Saturn's outermost major ring, the "A" ring.

It was theorized that the gap, known as Encke's Gap, results from the presence of an unseen body. The gravity of the moon would disturb the particles in the huge "A" ring in an interaction that would create a gap in the ring and waves along the gap's inner edges.

Showalter's computer programme analysed waves on the edges, which resemble the wake of a motorboat, to determine the position and mass of the moon. Into the computer programme was added information about the spacecraft's positions and

camera angles in 1980-81. The computer search through the enormous stock of Voyager images churned up 25 candidates, of which 11 were winners, showing a small bright spot. Temporarily the new moon was designated 1981 S13. It exists 46,000 miles (74,000 km) from Saturn's surface, and is the 18th and farthest-out of the planet's moons.

Brian Marsden of the International Astronomical Union said yesterday that the moon, if confirmed, would be the second celestial body successfully predicted because of its gravitational effect.

"This is the first time since the discovery of Neptune that this has been successfully done in the solar system," Marsden said in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Neptune was discovered in 1846.

To confirm the existence of the new moon, Marsden said, more work must be done and recommended examining data sent back to Earth from the Voyager 1 probe.

Saturn has more moons than any other planet in the solar system. It is followed by Jupiter's 16 moons and the 15 moons around Uranus.

Given the large number of Saturn's moons, Marsden said, "I think it would be surprising if there aren't more moons. It's a question of whether they can be detected. They are very far away and very small things."

The Voyager 2 spacecraft flew past Neptune in 1989 and, while still messaging data, now is headed out of the solar system.

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Cuomo signs ban against dwarf tossing

ALBANY, New York, July 25, (AP): New York State Governor Mario Cuomo has signed legislation banning dwarf tossing and dwarf bowling in New York bars, calling the activities a "strange diversion."

"Any activity which dehumanizes and humiliates these people is degrading to us all," Cuomo said yesterday. "This bill recognizes that and, in effect, declares these bizarre games to be debased."

The bill, similar to one that became law in Florida last year, amounts to a ban because the events have not been popular outside bars. It passed the legislature with only one dissenting vote.

The law targets taverns, but has no penalties for participants. Bars could lose their liquor licenses.

Dwarf tossing is a competition in which people pick up dwarfs, who are wearing harnesses, and heave them as far as possible at a padded target. It produced an offshoot, dwarf bowling, in which a helmeted dwarf is strapped to a skateboard and rolled into bowling pins.

A New York City area promoter said the law amounts to censorship.

Baird Jones said his dwarf events are performing art designed to satirize the values of mainstream America.

INTERNATIONAL

Gunmen open fire on Jewish leader

Peru attackers include Palestinians

LIMA, July 25, (AP): Gunmen believed to be tied to Palestinian group shot and wounded a leader of Peru's Jewish community yesterday, officials said.

Jacob Hasson, director of the Israeli Union in Peru, was struck with four bullets in the left hand and arm when gunmen opened fire on his car, according to Lima police chief Jacobo Mishkin.

Hasson, 60, was treated at a nearby hospital for his wounds, which Mishkin described as not serious. Mishkin said Hasson's attackers were believed to include three suspected Palestinian commandos released from a Peruvian jail two months ago for lack of evidence.

The men, arrested earlier on suspicion of belonging to the Abu Nidal group, were Hocine Bouzidi, 36, of Algeria; Mohamed Abdel Rahman Abed, 19, of Egypt; and Ahmad Asaad Mohamed, 19, of Lebanon. The Israeli Embassy said the arrest of the three men had prevented attacks against diplomats in Peru.

Peruvian officials said at the time that the three men would probably be deported. Instead they were held for two years awaiting trial and then released.

Police gave the following account of yesterday's attack:

An automobile carrying three men and a woman cut off Hasson's car yesterday afternoon as he was driving on Avenida Javier Prado, a major avenue. The occupants opened fire on Hasson's car with revolvers and sub-machine-guns.

The car went out of control and smashed into a sidewalk fruit stand, slightly injuring the vendor and her 14-month-old girl. The gunmen escaped before police arrived.

Hasson has lived in Peru for 30 years and manages the Israeli Union, a Jewish community organisation, which is located in a Lima Synagogue.

In 1988, police said that three men may have been planning attacks against Jewish, US and Israeli targets in Peru. They said documents were found showing the men kept the US Consulate, the Israeli embassy and the synagogue of Israel in Lima under surveillance.

Ties

Police also suspected the three men may have tried to form ties with leftist guerrillas in Peru.

Peruvian officials said Interpol has accused Bouzidi of being a member of Abu Nidal's central committee and of being linked to planning more than 30 attacks in Europe and the Mideast since 1976.

Among the attacks linked to Nidal were the November 1985 hijacking of an Air Egypt jetliner, where 59 people were killed when Egyptian troops stormed the craft.

Fourteen people were killed and 120 wounded in the simultaneous Abu Nidal raids against El Al ticket counters in Rome and Vienna in December 1985.

Nearly 100 people have died in clashes between leftist guerrillas and security forces so far this week, police and news reports said.

Suspected Shining Path rebels assassinated a university official yesterday in the Andean city of Ayacucho.

Police said masked raiders burst into the home of Ciro Alberto Aramburu Villena, director of student welfare at the University of San Cristobal de Huamanga in the Andean city of Ayacucho, at 2 am and gunned him down as he tried to jump out of a second-floor window.

Aramburu Villena's daughter, 31-year-old Flora Aramburu Castañares, was shot and wounded in the right shoulder when she cried for help, police said.

Agitation

The University of San Cristobal de Huamanga is considered a centre of agitation of the Shining Path guerrillas, who follow a Marxist line founded by the late Chinese revolutionary leader Mao Tse-tung.

For the past week students have occupied the university's cafeteria, demanding free meals.

The legal adviser to the university, Hernando Colonia Artega, was killed in a similar pre-dawn raid by suspected Shining Path guerrillas four days ago.

The founder of the Shining Path movement, Abimael Guzman Reynoso, is a former philosophy professor at the university.

Lafontant arrest warrant upheld

PORT-AU-PORT, July 25, (Reuters): Haitian judicial authorities disclosed yesterday that they had upheld an arrest warrant issued for a former Duvalier interior minister whose homecoming provoked a recent political crisis.

Outside the Palace of Justice, more than 50 pro-democracy demonstrators clashed in a rock-throwing contest with supporters of the minister, Roger Lafontant.

Lafontant, who was minister under the Duvalier family dictatorship and reputed head of the feared paramilitary group Tonton Macoutes, returned to Haiti two weeks ago from self-imposed exile.

His return has stirred street violence, a general strike and concern that Haiti's planned November elections may be in jeopardy.



Alberto Fujimori

Fujimori to be sworn in Saturday

Inherits nation in chaos

LIMA, July 25, (AP): President-elect Alberto Fujimori on Saturday inherits a nation that is bankrupt and ravaged by drought and war. How he will cope remains a mystery.

Fujimori's team of advisors has been wracked by dissension and defection. Only days before the July 28 inauguration Fujimori is still scrambling to put together both a government and a plan with which to govern.

Fujimori's "good intention" of selecting the best from each party may end in disaster, because the best may not want to join a government "without well-defined aims," the magazine Caratela wrote.

The problems Fujimori's government will face are immense. The economy is in a state of collapse. Inflation tops 3,000 per cent per year. Four of five people lack steady work. The Central Bank has no dollars and has sold almost all its gold. Bread is rationed. Provincial gas stations are dry.

Guerrilla violence is at an all-time high. Maoist Shining Path rebels control much of Peru's Andean mountains and Amazonian jungle. The pro-Cuban Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement recently staged a spectacular breakout from Lima's maximum-security prison.

The worst drought to hit Peru this century has devastated crops and drastically cut Lima's water supply. Hydroelectric plants run at half capacity. The daily blackouts have paralysed industry.

A US-backed plan to fight the trade in coca leaf, the raw material of cocaine, threatens to deprive Peru of its second-top export. The country earns \$1 billion per year from the coca trade, which directly employs some 200,000 people in this nation of 22 million.

To reverse the economic collapse, Fujimori has proposed drastic measures. He says this will include a major devaluation of Peru's "inti", the end of price subsidies, privatisation of many state companies and emergency taxes on the rich.

Soon after his June 10 landslide victory over novelist Mario Vargas Llosa, Fujimori travelled to the United States and Japan seeking economic aid.

In New York, he met with the heads of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Outgoing President Alan Garcia cut ties with these organisations four years ago. Fujimori hopes to receive loans in return for implementing an IMF-approved adjustment plan.

But Fujimori's plan has met with strong domestic opposition. He himself condemned such a "shock" programme during his campaign against Vargas Llosa.

Within Fujimori's Change 90 party one camp favours a drastic economic shock and another favours a more gradual approach. Many believe this conflict has resulted in chaos.

Cuban leader Fidel Castro is almost sure to visit Peru this week for President-elect Alberto Fujimori's inauguration, a foreign ministry spokesman said yesterday. (Reuters)

US, Colombia sign drug agreement

Agree to share any money, property seized from traffickers

BOGOTA, July 25, (AP): The United States agreed yesterday to share with Colombia any money and property it seizes from drug traffickers.

Representatives from the two countries signed an agreement in Bogota in which the United States will share drug wealth that was seized with co-operation from Colombian authorities.

At a ceremony in Bogota, US Ambassador to Colombia Thomas MacNamara

and Colombian Justice Minister Roberto Salazar signed the document, calling it a step toward greater co-operation in fighting the drug war.

MacNamara said the agreement was a result of a regional anti-drug summit last February in Cartagena, Colombia.

At that meeting, US President George Bush met with the leaders of Colombia, Bolivia and Peru, the biggest cocaine-producing countries, to develop a strategy

to fight drugs.

This agreement represents another step forward in the co-operation began at the Cartagena summit, the ambassador told reporters after the signing.

He added that the United States, in consultation with Colombian authorities, will decide how much of seized drug assets it will share, which will depend on the degree of Colombian co-operation during a seizure.

The agreement does not require Colombia to share drug assets it seizes using US help.

In the past Colombians have criticised the United States for saying it wants to help the country fight its drug war, but not actually doing so.

Some Colombian officials have said the United States is discriminating against Colombia's legal exports, such as coffee and flowers.

Cuba blames US for incidents

HAVANA, July 25, (AP): A senior Cuban official said yesterday that Cubans who have sought asylum in foreign embassies the past two weeks were lured to do so by exile radio stations in Miami.

The Vice Foreign Minister, Jose Viera, called for the "unconditional and voluntary" departure of the 25 Cubans now being sheltered at three European embassies.

On Sunday, three Cubans entered the Swiss Embassy. Earlier, 18, had sought refuge at the Spanish Embassy and four at the Italian Embassy.

Viera said it is "not admissible" for a Cuban desiring to emigrate to circumvent normal procedures by forcing his way into a foreign embassy.

If Cuba acquiesced in this practice, "the embassies in Cuba would not be able to function," he said.

It could result in embassies throughout the developing world being overrun by people wishing to emigrate.

At several points during his hour-long appearance, Viera blamed exile radio stations in Miami for inciting the incidents at the embassies. The first incident occurred at the Czechoslovak Embassy on July 9.

Cuban reports said at least three of the exile radio stations can often be heard clearly in Havana but the Cuban reporters were unable to substantiate Viera's claims that they have been encouraging Cubans to seek refuge.

The reporters said one of the stations is operated by the Cuban-American National Foundation. Another is run by a group called Cuba Independent and Democratic, they said.

Viera sought to portray the incidents at the embassies as unrepresentative of the overall situation here.

He said the annual carnival celebration this week has been proceeding normally. The events at the embassies have led to a substantial increase in security around many diplomatic missions of Nato countries.

Cuba yesterday accused the United States of encouraging terrorism by releasing an anti-Castro militant said by Havana to have masterminded the destruction of a Cuban ship.

Oriundo Bosch, 63, whom Cuba accuses of planning the blowing up in 1976 of a Cuban ship, was freed from prison in Miami earlier this month after the US government failed to find a country willing to accept him as a deportee.

Spain said yesterday Cuba could only patch its relations with Madrid if it grants free passage to 18 Cuban asylum-seekers sheltering in the Spanish embassy in Havana.

Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez said Spain wanted to end the question of the asylum-seekers, which has sparked a diplomatic row between the two nations, through dialogue. (Reuters)

Doe entrenched for last stand

Determined to destroy Monrovia before he dies

ABIDJAN, July 25, (Reuters): Liberian President Samuel Doe, entrenched for a bloody last stand against rebels closing in on his seaside mansion, seems determined to leave little of Monrovia intact for his rebel successors.

Doe, desperately clinging to power, was holed up in his heavily fortified residence in the capital with a few hundred troops and stockpiles of ammunition as rebel forces pushed into the centre of the city.

A rebel gunboat fired on the mansion before dawn yesterday before

withdrawing under government cannon fire. It was not immediately clear if the building was damaged.

Diplomats said Doe's troops seemed to be destroying as much of Monrovia's infrastructure as they could in a bitter attempt to leave the rebels with nothing.

Much of the city's industry was in ruins.

"(Doe) is going to destroy as much as possible of Monrovia before he dies," a diplomat said. "The industrial base will take years to rebuild."



Liberian doctor Obert Kpoto (right) and his Belgian colleague Johan Heffink of Medecin Sans Frontier, give an emergency treatment at St Joseph's Hospital to an 11-year-old girl. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mohawks may face charges

Plot to murder, illegal arms possession

OKA, Quebec, July 25, (AP): Mohawks locked in an armed impasse over a plot of land are running low on food and could face criminal charges.

Police have opened several hundred criminal investigations which could lead to charges from Quebec's justice minister against the Mohawks, provincial police Const. Andre Blanchette confirmed yesterday.

The investigations began after the death of Cpl. Marcel Lemay, during a police assault on the Mohawk barricades at the Kanata reservation near Oka, about 20 miles (30 kilometres) west of Montreal. Two of the investigations concern possible charges of murder and conspiracy to murder the 31-year-old police officer, though it has not yet been determined whether he was shot by an Indian or a fellow officer.

Other charges include possession of prohibited firearms, discharging firearms, theft of police vehicles, blocking roads, threatening to blow up a bridge, firing sub-machine-guns, evicting tenants and misdemeanours. The reservation, home to 6,000, has been closed by police

and Indian blockades since July 11, when police stormed the Mohawk barricade.

The police raid brought to a head a four-month barricade by the Mohawks, who want to stop a municipal golf course from expanding onto land in Oka they claim is ancestral Mohawk territory.

The Mohawks have rejected government demands that they put down their arms and remove the barricades before negotiations for a solution take place. They want the police to withdraw before they disarm.

Also yesterday, the Quebec human rights commission called on the police to respect the provincial charter of rights and to allow the free movement of people, food and medicine into the reservation.

The commission wants Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa to intervene personally to settle the stalemate and to reduce racial tensions in the province.

Spokesman Jacques Lachapelle told a Montreal news conference the commission is considering suing the police for blocking the flow of food into the settlement.

Residents are allowed to cross police lines with one bag of groceries, and some food is brought in on back roads and across the Ottawa river. But Ellen Gabriel, a Mohawk representative, said children behind the barricades aren't getting a balanced diet.

A Red Cross team got through the police blockade yesterday and distributed food and supplies to the Mohawks. Linda Gauthier, a Red Cross official, said the agency hopes to check on the situation every two or three days. She said the Red Cross distributed enough food for 80 people for three days.

Fort Covington, New York lawmakers question whether a tribal police force could maintain peace on the St Regis Indian reservation, but the state's top law enforcement officer says such an agency is the best option for ending the turmoil there.

State police superintendent Thomas Constantine made his remarks yesterday to a legislative panel conducting a day-long hearing into the problems at the Mohawk Reservation in northern New York.

Fighters who entered the city centre on Monday were identified as loyal to Johnson.

Conditions for Monrovia's residents remained grim. Shops stayed locked and shuttered and hungry residents braved harassment by soldiers in a vain search for food.

At least nine bodies were found on a city beach yesterday and witnesses said the men had been summarily executed by government soldiers. Other bodies lay nearby.

Johnson and Taylor hate each other as much as they hate Doe," a Western diplomat said. "They could finish Doe off tomorrow if they just got their act together."

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Black American sues Kenyan official

NAIROBI, July 25, (UPI): A black American yesterday filed suit against a Kenyan government minister, Peter Okondo, for referring to blacks in the United States as "negroes."

Shaka Zulu Assega, a US citizen who has abandoned his real name and refuses to disclose it, filed the suit in the Nairobi High Court two days after Okondo, minister for labour, attacked the United States government for interfering in Kenyan politics, saying: "What human rights and freedom has the United States given the negroes and the Red Indians to this day?"

Shaka Zulu Assega, a US citizen who has abandoned his real name and refuses to disclose it, filed the suit in the Nairobi High Court two days after Okondo, minister for labour, attacked the United States government for interfering in Kenyan politics, saying: "What human rights and freedom has the United States given the negroes and the Red Indians to this day?"

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Puig lies in state

The body of Argentine writer Manuel Puig lies in state on July 22 with some of his work over the casket, while his mother Maria Eugenia de Puig (right) talks with a friend in the background. Puig, 57, author of the novel that became the widely-acclaimed movie *The Kiss of the Spider Woman*, died after an operation on July 22. (Reuters wirephoto)

كبرياء الناصر

Article on royals banned in Britain

LONDON, July 25, (AP): Lawyers for Queen Elizabeth II have won a court injunction forcing the French magazine Paris Match to remove an eyebrow-raising article about the royal household from all copies sold in Britain.

The 8,000 copies of the weekly photo, news and gossip magazine that appeared on British newsstands yesterday had a sticker in place of the eight-page article. It said: "For legal reasons pages have been removed."

Christian Lafaix, a Paris Match executive, said the decision to tear the eight pages out of each of the 8,000 copies was taken by the magazine's British importer. The French edition remains unchanged.

The eight pages contained photographs and extracts from a book by a former Buckingham Palace employee, Malcolm Barker. He was employed from 1980 to 1983 as a lowly storeman in the master of the royal household.

Barker now lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia. His book, "Courtier's Disaster," is on sale in Canada and the United States.

The book makes disclosures which the Queen's lawyers claim breach an undertaking of confidentiality signed by Barker when he joined the palace staff.

Royal staff are routinely required to sign an agreement not to reveal details of what they see and hear while in royal service.

Angered by behind-the-scenes revelations by former employees, the palace in recent years has increasingly resorted to legal action to try to suppress spicy memoirs.

The court injunction was served yesterday by Farrer and Co., the Queen's London law firm, on another London law firm acting for Barker and the book's Canadian publishers, Fleetwood Publications. Fleetwood is based in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

BD Publications, a company which handles public relations for Fleetwood, said the injunction prevents publication in Britain of the book, or excerpts from the book in any form. "BD Publications' additional statement: 'Malcolm Barker cannot understand the need for blatant censorship of his rollicking revelations. Nor can the 8,000-strong expatriate French subscribers to Paris Match in the United Kingdom.'

Buckingham Palace said in a brief statement last night. "The matter is in the hands of lawyers. ... Barker signed an undertaking of confidentiality which has been breached."

The London newspaper the Daily Telegraph said today the eight pages removed from Paris Match in Britain included a picture of the Queen in bed wearing a bedjacket and a picture purporting to show her divorced sister Princess Margaret in a swim suit on a beach with former close friend, Roddy Llewellyn, naked.

The paper reported: "The book, co-written by T.C. Soby, a Canadian, and the article paint a picture of the household staffs' gossip with drink and reveling in illicit sexual encounters."

Call to avoid 'litmus test' on Souter

PHILADELPHIA, July 25, (Reuters): President George Bush, saying Supreme Court justices should be kept above the "flames of political passion," yesterday urged the Senate to avoid allowing abortion or any issue to dominate questioning on the nomination of David Souter to the US High Court.

Bush on Monday nominated Souter, 50, a little-known conservative judge recently named to the federal appeals court, to replace Justice William Brennan, a staunch liberal who has influenced court rulings for 34 years. The 84-year-old Brennan, who recently suffered a minor stroke, resigned last Friday.

The nomination of his replacement has reflected passions on "an abortion issue, with advocates and opponents believing the addition of a conservative may lead to the reversal of earlier court rulings that allowed citizens, not the state, to decide whether to undergo the procedure."

Bush, who has insisted his own opposition to abortion played no role in the selection of Souter, urged the Senate to avoid letting a single issue dominate its confirmation proceedings.

"In my nomination, there was no single issue, no litmus test or standard dominating my decision to nominate," Bush said in remarks to a Pennsylvania Republican fundraising luncheon.

"I will add there should be no litmus test in the process of confirmation," Bush said to the applause of the partisan crowd.

"My sole priority was to appoint a justice true to the life and the spirit of the Constitution," Bush said, "a priority that I am confident will also guide the Congress in the confirmation process."

British royals put on fixed income to year 2000

Monarchy to be more businesslike; to be given raises 7.5 pc a year

LONDON, July 25, (Reuters): Britain's royal family has been put on a fixed income until the year 2000 and the government says it will give Queen Elizabeth and her close relatives pay rises averaging 7.5 per cent a year.

The Queen, already the world's richest woman, will receive a 7.9 million pounds sterling (\$14.41 million) a year when the new system starts next on January 1.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told parliament yesterday the fixed salary would replace the annual updat-

ings in the spring budget.

Buckingham Palace said the Queen had appointed a leading accountant to help run her household more like a business.

Michael Peat will be the royal household's director of finance and property services, overseeing the management of Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, St James's Palace and Kensington Palace.

This year, the Queen received 5.09 million pounds (\$9.28 million) from civil list, which pays the working expen-

ses and staff salaries of the monarchy.

The average paid to other members of the royal family has been calculated on the same basis. From next year, the Queen Mother will get 640,000 pounds (\$1.7 million), Prince Philip 360,000 (\$956,000), The Duke of York 250,000 (\$650,000), Prince Edward 100,000 (\$250,000), the Princess Royal 250,000 (\$650,000), Prince Margaret 220,000 (\$560,000) and Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester 90,000 (\$225,000).

The Prince of Wales, heir to the throne, does not figure on the list

because he draws his income from his personal estate, the Duchy of Cornwall.

Thatcher said in announcing the move that the royal family "are a focus of patriotism, loyalty, affection and esteem. It is a rare combination and we should value it."

But it was attacked by some opposition Labour Party politicians.

"Why should the taxpayer be handing out large sums of money to the Queen and all the hangers-on at the palace?" asked Denis Skinner, a

Labour Member of Parliament.

Tony Benn, another Labour MP, told Thatcher there were "many people who believe the sums paid to the royal family far exceed the services rendered."

But Thatcher retorted: "The overwhelming majority of people in this nation are agreed that the royal family is the greatest asset the UK has."

The civil list was started under King George III, who was a notoriously profligate spender and found it difficult to manage his income. He handed the

entire sum over to the Treasury, which then set him an annual income that would allow him to live in the manner befitting a monarch.

The Queen yearly pays the government about 50 million pounds (\$90 million) derived from her numerous land holdings across Britain.

Prince Charles and Princess Diana are not on the civil list because he has chosen to live off his income from the Duchy of Cornwall. Experts believe he will abandon the civil list when he assumes the throne.



Christian Brando (left) turns to defence attorney Robert Shapiro for a conference during preliminary hearing proceedings on Tuesday. Brando, 32-year-old son of actor Marlon Brando, is charged with murder in the shooting death of Dag Drollet, boyfriend of his half-sister Cheyenne. (Reuter wirephoto)



Marlon Brando turns away from court proceedings during Tuesday's preliminary hearing for his son, Christian (left) who is accused in the shooting death of his half-sister Cheyenne's boyfriend. (Reuter wirephoto)

\$10m bail set for Brando son

Sum believed to be highest in California history

LOS ANGELES, July 25, (Reuters): A judge yesterday set bail at \$10 million for actor Marlon Brando's son, Christian, who is accused of murdering his half-sister's boyfriend.

Marlon Brando sat emotionless as Los Angeles Criminal Court Judge Larry Fidler announced the sum, believed to be the highest in California history.

Court sources said Brando would be able to raise the money and Christian was expected to be freed later yesterday.

"He'll be home in time for supper," said one source, who asked not to be named.

Christian was also ordered to surrender his passport.

Defence attorney Robert Shapiro said Brando would put up his \$5 million Hollywood mansion as collateral for half the bail. The mansion where Marlon Brando has lived for 33 years was the scene of the fatal May 16 shooting.

Fidler said at the end of the preliminary two-day hearing that there was enough evidence against Christian Brando to justify his trial for murder.

No date was set for the trial. Before the judge's pronouncement, Marlon

Brando had smiled encouragingly at Christian Brando while Mike Brando, the defendant's half-brother, gave him the thumbs-up sign.

Christian, 32, is charged with the murder of Dag Drollet, Cheyenne Brando's Tahitian boyfriend.

Christian has admitted shooting Drollet, but said it was an accident.

In a voluntary statement made to a police officer, and read to the court yesterday by a prosecutor, Christian said after the shooting he went up to his father and told him, "Pop, I just shot Doug (Dag)."

Police question two

IRA bombing in N. Ireland

ARMAGH, Northern Ireland, July 25, (AP): Police said today two men were being questioned about an IRA bombing that killed three police officers and a nun, the first Roman Catholic sister to die in Northern Ireland's "troubles."

The three Royal Ulster Constabulary officers died instantly when an estimated half-ton (450 kg) of explosives was detonated beneath their car on a rural highway yesterday afternoon, police said.

The nun, who was in an oncoming car, died at a hospital shortly after the blast. A woman social worker riding with sister Catherine Dunne was injured but was reported in satisfactory condition today morning.

Police said two men were arrested at their homes not far from the scene of the explosion on the outskirts of Armagh. They were being questioned at Gough barracks in the city about "serious terrorist crimes" in the Armagh area including the latest bombing, said an RUC spokesman, who by custom was not identified.

Protestant and Catholic leaders joined in condemning the attack.

Catholic Bishop Cahal Daly said the nun's death added "a new dimension of poignancy and horror" to the violence in Northern Ireland. But he also said there were "no legitimate targets" — all four people murdered were innocent victims of a senseless and evil campaign.

Two of the three police officers were married. Among them, they had six young children.

Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey called the murders "utterly futile," and Ireland's Anglican primate, the Most Rev. Robin Eames, expressed his "absolute disgust at the brutal attack."

The Irish News, a Belfast daily that serves the Catholic community, said in today's editions that an anonymous caller claimed responsibility on behalf of the IRA. But the caller did not give recognised codeword, which often accompanies IRA statements, the newspaper said.

Nor was there any apology, such as the IRA offered after killing two Australian tourists in the Netherlands on May 28 or the six-month-old daughter of a British soldier in West Germany on Oct 26.

Police said the bomb apparently was triggered from a nearby bungalow while the occupants, including young children, were held hostage.

The explosion blasted a crater nearly 10 feet (3 metres) deep, crushed the policemen's car and flung it over, and knocked the nun's small car off the road.

The three officers were identified as constable William James Hanson, 37, of Armagh, who had three girls and a boy whose ages ranged from 6 to 13; Joshua Cyril Willis, 35, of Caledon, a reserve officer who had sons aged 1 and 4; and David Sternitt, 34, and unmarried reserve officer from Markethill.

The IRA killed four soldiers with a similar bomb beneath a road on April 9.



A Roman Catholic nun, Sister Catherine Dunne (above) was killed along with three policemen when a landmine, estimated to contain over 1,000 lbs (454 kgs) of explosives was activated near Armagh in Northern Ireland on Tuesday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Bishop Carey to succeed Runcie

LONDON, July 25, (AP): George Carey, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, was named today to be the 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury, succeeding Robert Runcie as spiritual leader of the State Church of England and 70 million Anglicans world-wide.

The 54-year-old Cockney-born scholar, an outsider for the Post, was chosen by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher from two names submitted in order of preference by the 16-member Crown Appointments Commission.

Queen Elizabeth II officially nominated Carey for election by the dean and chapter of Canterbury to replace Runcie as Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England and Metropolitan.

An Evangelical Christian, Carey is known for his orthodox beliefs, favours the ordination of women and is respected in church circles. An avowed environmentalist, he also is

on record as saying "god is green."

The Rt. Rev. Robert Williamson, Bishop of Bradford, called his appointment "imaginative and exciting."

The Rt. Rev. Michael Bangham, the Bishop of Chester, also hailed the choice. "He is a person who believes the gospel, accepts scriptural authority, has the Church of England very much in his heart, is a man of mission, is extremely well-grounded theologically, and has a warm and delightful personality with a real understanding of life."

The two front-runners for the post, Archbishop of York John Habgood and Bishop of Liverpool David Sheppard, both were liberals and had been opposed by the conservative wing of the church.

Sheppard called Carey "a gifted and able man who will serve the church and the nation faithfully with strength."

Thatcher refuses to draw in film debate

LONDON, July 25, (AP): British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher yesterday refused to intervene in the dispute over banning a film that portrays the death of author Salman Rushdie.

The Independent British Board of Film Classification has banned the Pakistani film, "The Satanic Verses," on the ground that it is criminally libelous of Rushdie.

British Muslim groups have denounced the ban on the film and accused the board of hypocrisy because Rushdie's book, "The Satanic Verses," which they say blasphemes Islam, was not banned.

"The board is an entirely independent body," Thatcher said. "If the distributors of the recording wish to appeal against the decision of the board, they make application to the video appeals committee in the usual way."

The prime minister was responding in the House of Commons to an opposition lawmaker who accused her of "double standards."

Jewish groups in Britain also complained about anti-Semitic references in the work.

Rushdie, born to a Muslim family in India and now a British citizen, has been in hiding since February 1989 when the late Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran called for Rushdie's death for writing the book.

The author said through his defence committee on Monday that he would not take a libel action against the film and supports the right of the film to be shown.

The Pakistani-Urdu film's distributor, Mohammed Fayyaz, launched an appeal to the video appeals committee on Monday.

Ran up \$20,000 phone bill

Immates at a county jail in central Florida ran up a \$20,000 telephone bill by dialling up numbers offering sexually explicit conversations, a jail official said on Tuesday.

The prisoners managed to skirt circuitry on six pay telephones intended to block such long-distance calls, said jail administrator Gary Borders.

Jim Beary, vice-president of the company that installed the telephone system, said he was investigating the matter and would likely seek criminal charges against the inmates involved.

It was unclear who would pay the cost of the calls, some of which ran \$25 a minute. (Reuter)

Alaska forest on fire: Smoke blotted out views of Mount McKinley and rangers in the park where North America's highest mountain is located warned hikers on Tuesday to avoid strenuous activity because of lightning fires on the unusually dry parkland.

Five fires in the park burned 50,000 acres (123,000 hectares) of land, part of the total of 121 fires blazing across 1.26 million acres (3.1 million hectares) of Alaskan territory.

Fires blazed from the Canadian border on the east to the Bering Sea on Alaska's west coast and as far north as the Brooks Range and the Arctic Circle, officials from the Alaska Interagency Fire Information Centre said. (Reuter)

N.Y. cops foil jewel robbery: US officials said on Tuesday they had smashed a ring of jewel thieves who stole millions of dollars in diamonds, Rolex watches and rare coins around the country and within hours had them for sale on shelves in Manhattan's famous diamond district.

James Fox, head of the New York office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), said most of the 15 defendants are now in custody.

Fox said the gang, who lived in New York and New Jersey, stole valuable jewellery, including precious gems and Rolex watches, through robbery and fraud from businesses and homes in New York, New Jersey and Florida and resold them in the diamond district on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue and 47th Street. (Reuter)

Disgraced hero's war medal sold: A Crimean War Victoria Cross awarded to an officer later drummed out of the British navy in disgrace was auctioned in London on Tuesday.

Britain's highest award for bravery, won by Edward St John Dimes at the Battle of Inkerman in 1854, made £19,800 (\$36,100), auctioneers Christie's said.

Dimes, then a lieutenant, was dismissed from his ship for drink offences in 1856. He was arrested in 1861, accused of "indecent liberties" with junior officers, and struck off the register of Victoria Cross holders.

Dog-minder official scuffle: A bulldog bitch called Tonic Dolly Clothespeg won a silver trophy but her minder and a dog show official brawled on the rostrum then toppled onto a spectator below, Britain's Kennel Club heard on Tuesday.

Robert Norman Davis was accused of breaking Kennel Club rules by behaving in a manner discreditable or prejudicial to the interests of the canine world by attacking steward John Story and causing him bodily injury.

The club's disciplinary sub-committee was told that Davis and Story scuffled over the trophy and crashed off the rostrum onto elderly spectator Betty Overend. (Reuter)

Chinese village at Niagara Falls: Hong Kong businessmen will spend \$6 million to build a Chinese amusement park near Niagara Falls, Ontario, the town's mayor said on Tuesday.

The city council has approved the Ancient Chinese City development on a site about two miles away (three km) from the world-famous water falls. It will include a replica of a 13th-century Chinese village, two 20-storey hotels, a marina and a motel. (Reuter)

Rare violin stolen: A rare Stradivarius violin valued at \$50,000 was stolen from famed violinist Erich Greenberg at Los Angeles International Airport Tuesday by someone who probably had no idea of its worth, police said.

A second Hirsch violin worth about \$8,000 was also stolen, Sgt Michael Apodaca said. Greenberg arrived from England via British Airways with his wife carrying the two instruments about 4:30 pm. He was met by Harold Hirsch, maker of one Greenberg's violins.

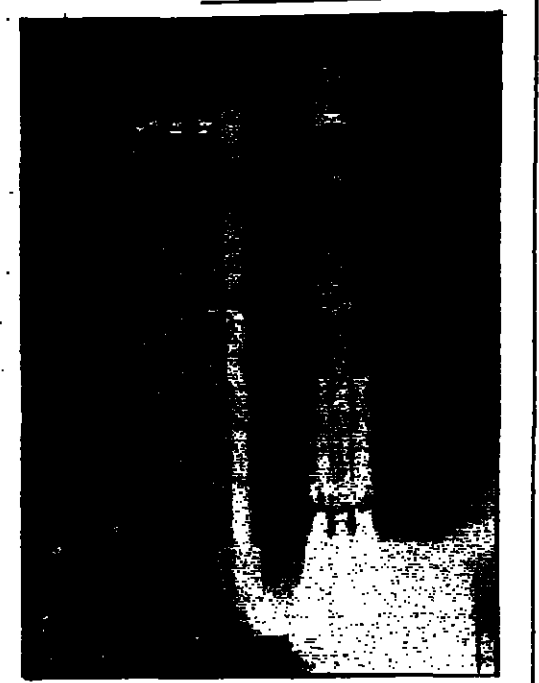
Greenberg placed both instruments in a baggage cart and rolled it outside, where he left it briefly as he waited to be picked up, Apodaca said.

When he returned, the instruments were gone. (UPI)

UK navy aircrew awarded: Two British aircrewmen received the George medal for bravery on Tuesday for helping to rescue 40 people from a Pakistani-registered freighter which sank off south-west England in October 1989.

Petty officers aircrewmen Dave Wallace, 34, and Stephen Wright, 31, of the Royal Navy were the last left aboard the 18,000-ton Murre after winning the passengers to safety into three helicopters. The passengers included two babies.

The Murre ran into trouble 20 miles (32 kilometres) off the coast of Devon during a hurricane-force storm, which killed six people in Britain on Oct 28, 1989. A severe gale swept eight of its crewmen overboard and the ship began taking on water. (AP)



Ariane launch

Europe's space project rocketed off (above) to a successful comeback from a disastrous flight five months ago as it lifted two French and German television satellites into orbit on Tuesday.

The launch, from the Ariane space center in French Guiana, south America, put Ariane back on track as the premier carrier of commercial payloads into space.

Ariane launches had been suspended since a similar rocket carrying two Japanese communications satellites exploded shortly after takeoff on Feb 22, destroying both satellites.

Flight 37 took off at 7:25 pm (2225 GMT) and successfully deployed the five-channel TDF2 French television satellite and 11-channel West German DFS Kopernikus 2 to geostationary orbits in less than 25 minutes.

Salad planned

Space tomatoes to turn red soon

ELMHURST, Illinois, July 25, (UPI): All that talk about cosmic rays doesn't frighten Elmhurst College professor and space tomato cultivator Frank Mittermeyer.

Mittermeyer said Monday the tomato seeds he received from NASA — seeds that spent six years in space on the Long Duration Exposure Facility satellite — are bearing fruit.

And when he's done studying the plants, he plans to eat a salad.

"They're looking great," the biologist said. "Some are close to being red. It will be a matter of days. They're coming in very quickly."

Mittermeyer discounted early speculation the seeds could produce poison fruit. "That original story was incorrect," Mittermeyer said. "NASA has confirmed to me there isn't really a problem with radiation on these things."



Patriarch cancels trip

The spiritual leader of the world's Eastern Orthodox Christians has scrapped a plan to visit Canada during his current US tour, orthodox leaders said Tuesday.

Dimitrios I had been scheduled to cross the Niagara river into Canada briefly on Wednesday, but instead will greet Canadian Orthodox faithful on the US side of the river at Niagara Falls.

More than 1,000 Canadian Orthodox are expected to come by bus from as far away as Montreal to greet the patriarch, who will conduct services in Buffalo and Niagara Falls during his five-hour visit to the area.

An early itinerary for the trip called for Dimitrios I to walk across the peace bridge from Buffalo to Fort Erie, Ontario, for a meeting with Canadian orthodox leaders and to view Niagara Falls from the Canadian side.

Aids doctor didn't infect patients

CHICAGO, July 25, (AP): Patients face a minimal risk of contracting the Aids virus from surgeons with the disease, according to a study which found that a doctor who operated on thousands of people apparently infected none of them.

The study was sponsored by the three Nashville, Tennessee, hospitals where Dr. Harold Demmon worked before his Aids-related death in January 1989. The study identified 2,160 patients Demmon had operated on since 1982.

Only one patient, an intravenous drug user who frequented prostitutes, tested positive for the Aids virus, the authors reported in today's edition of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The authors concluded that the patient had contracted Aids through his own high-risk activities rather than through surgical contact with Demmon, who had removed a lymph node from the patient in 1984.

"The results of this investigation support the concept that risks to patients operated on by surgeons infected with the Aids virus are most likely quite low," wrote the authors, led by Dr. Ben Miskin of the Centres for Disease Control in Atlanta.

An accompanying editorial by Dr. Frank Rhaume, a University of Minnesota Aids expert, estimates that hundreds of Aids-infected surgeons are practicing in the United States.

Rhaume said there are now surgeon-to-patient transmissions of the disease. He estimated the risk of patients being infected by their surgeons at between one in 100,000 and one in 1 million operations.

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome is a disease caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus, or HIV. The disease attacks the body's immune system, leaving victims susceptible to a wide variety of infections and cancers.

Atlas launch on Wednesday

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, July 25, (AP): NASA and rocket builder General Dynamics said they would try again Wednesday to launch an unmanned Atlas carrying a US government scientific satellite.

Liftoff was scheduled for 1921 GMT (3:21 pm) from Cape Canaveral air force station.

Workers yesterday replaced a bad switch, which was designed to switch the rocket from external electrical power to its own batteries.



Chinese Premier Li Peng gestures to the press during a meeting with British Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Francis Maude (left) at the government guest house yesterday. Maude is in Beijing for a four-day official visit. (Reuters wirephoto)

Maude meets Li in Beijing

Relations improve

BEIJING, July 25, (AP): Chinese Premier Li Peng met today with the highest-ranking Western European official to visit China since last year's bloody crackdown on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing.

Francis Maude, British Foreign Office minister responsible for Hong Kong, is the first senior government representative to come to Beijing since the European Community banned all high-level contacts last year following the June 3-4 army attack.

At the start of their 50-minute meeting at the Diaoyutai state guest house, Li said Maude's visit marks a further improvement in Sino-British relations.

Noting Maude's promotion two days ago to financial secretary in the treasury, Li joked that he didn't know whether to congratulate him or not.

"In China, a finance minister and deputy finance minister is often a target to be attacked," he said.

Maude later told reporters that his morning meeting with Li was "very open and productive."

In answer to a question from a reporter, Maude said he had raised the issue of human rights. He said he told Li that Western nations "think there've been some positive developments which enable them" to look again at the measures that were put in place last summer.

China has lifted martial law in Beijing and the Tibetan capital of Lhasa, released hundreds of people arrested for supporting last year's democracy movement and allowed dissident astrophysicist Fang Lizhi to go abroad after taking sanctuary in the US embassy in Beijing for a year.

"Further steps of the same kind would enable the West to move forward" toward normalizing relations and lifting economic sanctions, Maude said.

His comments echoed the statement on China that the seven industrialized powers

issued at the end of their annual summit in Houston earlier this month.

Maude said he would be reporting to the European Community on his visit. Observers have said a positive report could open the way for high-level exchanges by other Western nations.

Britain was granted an exception by the European Community from the ban on high-level visits because of the British colony of Hong Kong, which reverts back to Chinese rule in 1997.

Maude said Li "reaffirmed his anxiety that we should work closely together... for the future stability and prosperity of Hong Kong."

He said Li was "certainly aware of the need for Hong Kong to be confident about its future."

US President George Bush used a senior Japanese envoy to ask Chinese premier Li Peng for co-operation to support Bush's policies toward Beijing, a Japanese official said.

Former Foreign Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told Li that Bush had asked him to convey his hopes for "positive" developments from the Chinese leadership to help support his pro-China stance, said Japanese embassy spokesman Yuji Kumamaru.

Former Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita will visit China next September as a special envoy of Premier Toshiki Kaifu to inform Beijing of Japan's acceptance to implement its \$5 billion loan programme, it was officially announced here Wednesday.

The Japanese official spokesman Misao Sakamoto said that Kaifu and the secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party Chiyo Ozawa ended a meeting with a dispute over choosing the special envoy.

Chinese pro-democracy activists said Monday they face imminent deportation because the Japanese government is trying to appease Beijing.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bombs rock Sabah: Two bombs rocked a town in Malaysia's Christian-controlled state of Sabah on Borneo island on Wednesday, injuring three people, police sources said.

They said bombs of a type normally used to kill fish exploded in two public toilets in the northern town of Kudat at 6.30 am and 7.30 am (2230 GMT and 2330 GMT on Tuesday).

The explosions were the first reports of violence since state elections last week that returned the tribal-based Christian-dominated Bersatu Sabah Party to power. (Reuters)

Malaysia insurance adopts: The Malaysian Life Insurance Association (Liam) has adopted the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Aids) underwriting guidelines at a council meeting held recently.

Liam President Mohd Anwar Senawi said told newsmen Tuesday this was to ensure that all the 18 life insurance companies in the country were protected against potential hefty claims in future arising from the deadly disease.

"One of the reasons for the spread of this disease is through sexual contacts and it is very difficult to detect," (Kuna)

'Big stick' necessary: Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew believes that "the big stick" is necessary to govern a nation, whatever the style of its leadership, it was reported in Kuala Lumpur Tuesday.

According to the report, Lee had said the big stick ensured that ruling were observed. "In tranquil times leaders have the choice to speak softly and let people around them, ministers and aides, carry the big stick," he was quoted as saying. (Kuna)

No town like Alice: There is no town like Alice when it comes to drinking.

Each adult in Alice Springs, a remote desert community of 25,000 people in central Australia, drinks an average of 27.1 litres (7.1 gallons) of pure alcohol equivalent per year, according to a report published on Wednesday.

Per capita consumption in France, the highest in any developed country, is 13.3 litres (3.5 gallons) a year, the 1990 edition of World Drink Trends published in the Netherlands shows. (Reuters)

'Never forget June 4': Several US businessmen unfurled banners recalling the Chinese government's 1989 crackdown on dissent in Tiananmen Square during a speech here on Tuesday by the mayor of Shanghai. (Reuters)

Thousands mob HK immigration department

To apply for special UK nationality plan

HONG KONG, July 25, (AP): Thousands of people mobbed Hong Kong's immigration department today, the last day to apply to move to Britain and escape communist rule when the British colony reverts to China in 1997.

Labourers, doctors, clerks, housewives and teachers squeezed into a line that snaked more than a kilometre (half a mile) over pedestrian walkways and along two main avenues in downtown Hong Kong. At least 50 people had spent the night, and several children fainted because of hot, humid weather.

Immigration official said that by 5 pm (0900 GMT), 4,847 heads of households had applied for the special nationality plan and that at least 30,000 people, including children and other dependents, had waited in line. Before today an estimated 26,000 had submitted applications.

"If we don't apply, we'll lose

out and become poor like all communists," said John Lam, a 41-year-old office manager in a trading house, who had been waiting for six hours.

"I'm doing this for my son," he said, pointing to a baby sleeping peacefully in a pink stroller.

Under the nationality plan, the British Government is allowing 50,000 Hong Kong households — an estimated 225,000 people — the right to live in Britain in an attempt to stop Hong Kong's best and brightest from leaving the territory. The plan is scheduled to be signed into law at Buckingham Palace today.

According to Hong Kong immigration officials, "about 3.5 million of Hong Kong's 5.7 million people are eligible for consideration under the package."

But most of those eligible don't have to apply formally

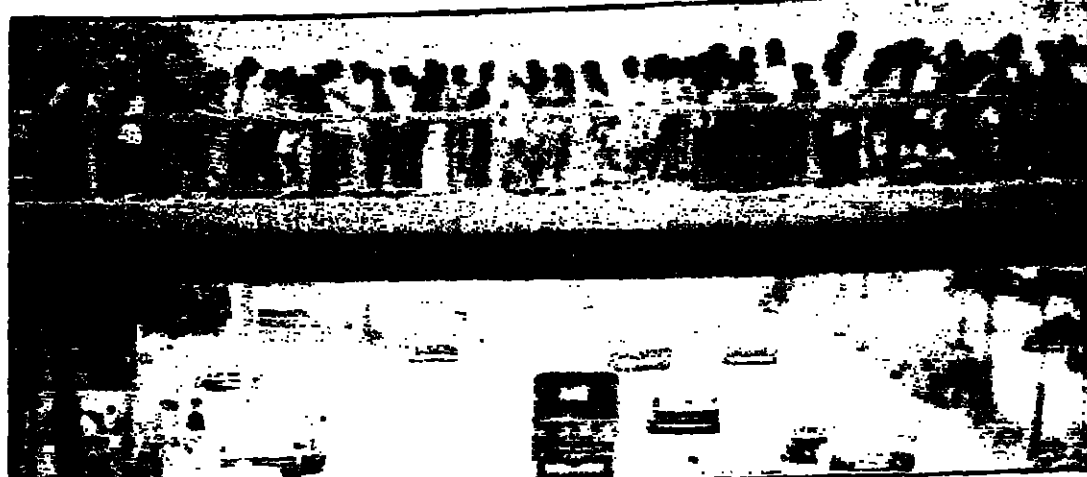
because they can easily prove they are British subjects, either by possessing a British-Hong Kong passport or a Hong Kong birth certificate.

As such, thousands of people needlessly lined up today and the immigration department issued plans to people with British-Hong Kong passports or birth certificates to go home.

The confusion was another example that people in this British colony are becoming increasingly desperate about their future.

Already more than 1,000 people a week are emigrating, mainly to Australia and Canada, because they fear a loss of rights and opportunities when Hong Kong reverts to Chinese rule in 1997.

Mothers waiting in line today carried children strapped to their chests. Old ladies leaned on walkers, and businessmen spoke



Hong Kong residents line up on an overpass in Hong Kong's Wan Chai district to file their applications for naturalisation status yesterday. Thousands applied before the midnight deadline to qualify for full British nationality. (Reuters wirephoto)

into portable phones as they awaited their turn.

CB Chan, assistant director of immigration, said 120 immigration officers were added to process the heavy flow of applications today. The department would stay open until mid-

night (1600 GMT) to accommodate the crowd, he said.

As part of a 1984 agreement, China promised to maintain Hong Kong's free-wheeling economic and social system under a programme it calls "one country, two systems." But after the June

1989 crackdown on the pro-democracy movement in Beijing, many in the territory lost faith in China's promise.

Hong Kong residents also question Britain's assurances of its support of until 1997, when Britain's 99-year lease runs out.



A DC-3 cargo plane carrying frozen shrimps and fish from central Philippines in Roxas City crashes on a ricefield in San Juan, Batangas, south of Manila on Tuesday. No casualty was reported but the three crew on board suffered injuries. (Reuters wirephoto)



American and Filipino rescue team carry an injured man to a hospital in Philippines. Rescuers have indicated they do not expect to find any more survivors, six days after a powerful earthquake hit northern Luzon, killing over 1,000 people. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rains cause suspension of relief

Communist NPA rebels kill Hungduan vice-mayor

MANILA, July 25, (AP): Torrential rains today forced officials to suspend relief flights to Baguio, where thousands of people were left homeless by last week's earthquake.

Communist rebels killed a vice-mayor who was travelling with a government patrol in the northern Philippines, the military said today.

Reports reaching military headquarters in Manila said Vice-Mayor Julian Humigon of Hungduan town was crossing the Hapay river with a government patrol yesterday when an undetermined number of communist New People's Army guerrillas opened fire.

Also today, the government announced it would seek debt relief from foreign creditors because of the devastating quake.

The rains, which flooded streets and snarled traffic in Manila, also prompted President Corason Aquino to cancel a planned visit to quake-ravaged Nueva Vizcaya province.

Storms raised fears of flooding throughout Luzon. Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos, chairman of the National Disaster Co-ordinating Council, said nearly 90,000 people were left homeless.

Yesterday, the House of Representatives approved a resolution urging Aquino to suspend payments on the nation's \$26 billion foreign debt for two-and-one-half years to free funds for reconstruction.

Khmer reiterates call for support

BANGKOK, Thailand, July 25, (AP): Cambodia's Khmer Rouge guerrillas have asked the world for continued support to offset a US policy shift partly designed to isolate them.

Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, in a statement yesterday over his group's army radio, also said the guerrillas must have a role in any peace settlement.

It was the first Khmer Rouge reaction to the US decision, announced last Wednesday, to withdraw its recognition of the UN seat held by the guerrilla coalition.

The coalition joins the Communist Khmer Rouge with two other guerrilla groups fighting the Vietnamese-installed government — the non-communist forces of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and of son Sann's Khmer People's National Liberation Front.

From April 1975 until Vietnam's late 1978 invasion ousted them from power, the Khmer Rouge killed hundreds of thousands of people in trying to turn the country into a series of primitive agrarian communes.

Vietnam installed another communist government.

Khieu Samphan noted the support given to the resistance by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or Asean, and other countries.

"The Cambodian people also ask them to continue providing steadfast assistance and support until the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia is comprehensively settled in conformity with the spirit and principle of the UN charter," he said.

Scene

Selfless heroism of rescuers

Gold miners still searching for bodies

BAGUIO, Philippines, July 25, (AP): Miner John Dilla takes a swing of cheap local gin, chews on betel nut, then covers his mouth with a thin surgical mask before burrowing into a crevice in the rubble of the once swank Hyatt Hotel.

Dilla is among 200 volunteer gold miners still searching for bodies, and possibly survivors, buried beneath twisted steel and tons of concrete after the July 16 earthquake devastated nearly 30 buildings in this mountain resort 130 miles (210 kilometres) north of Manila.

"The miners are the real heroes of this operation," said Dave Kemp, a member of the British International Rescue Corps. "The job they have done is simply excellent and very professional."

Kemp, a fireman from Norfolk, England, said Filipino miners had done about 70 per cent of the work of finding people beneath the ruins.

Most foreign rescuers left last weekend after deciding there were probably no more survivors in the ruins. Now, the miners, along with a few daring civilians and Philippine military academy cadets, are left with the job.

"They have committed to continue the search to the last body," said Rogelio Singson, a spokesman of Presidential Relief Co-ordination Centre for Baguio.

Dilla explained the miners needed the gin to numb their sense of smell as the stench of death grows stronger in the remains. Betel nuts satisfy hunger pangs.

He said the linen masks did little to lessen the stench of decaying bodies. But he and others wear them because they are the only facial covering available.

"You will need a gas mask with an oxygen supply before you can really work inside those tunnels. Otherwise, you will pass out before you can reach deep inside," Dilla said. "But since we lack the equipment, we're using the best available resources."

Fellow miner Orlando Bayas said they came to Baguio after hearing reports about damage in the once swank resort. The miners volunteered although their own camp at the Philex Mining Corp. was also damaged.

Twenty-one of their fellow miners and family members were killed there.

"We proceeded to Baguio as soon as we heard the news that we did not even have the time to check the condition of our families," Bayas said. "There was a greater need for us in Baguio."

Bayas said most of the volunteer miners walked from their camp, about 30 kilometres (19 miles) to reach Baguio.

Most have stayed since and have been working for stretches of up to 48 hours to find people trapped in the debris.

Working side by side with the miners are the 1,000 cadets of the Philippine Military Academy, whose campus is in Baguio.

Eight cadet companies formed the first organised search and rescue group in Baguio.

"We knew there was a lot of damage and there was nobody on deck but us," said cadet 3rd class Keith Cardones. "We had to decide fast."

"We were not prepared for a disaster but with just guts and our bare hands we started the rescue attempt," cadet 2nd class Jun de Vela said. "We only realised the dangers of what we were doing after experiencing being inside tunnels during the after-shocks."

They said the combination would represent "all shades of political opinion."

But Vietnam and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen have always rejected any power-sharing plan that would include the Khmer Rouge.

"Representation of Cambodia at the UN is a delicate political question," the statement said, adding a change like the one Baker outlined "would set back the search for a comprehensive political solution."

House of Representative speaker Ramon Mitra said Congress will speed up debates on a debt cap bill, which will peg debt payments to 15 per cent of yearly export earnings. At present, the government sets aside 22 per cent of the yearly budget for foreign debt payments, Mitra said.

In Baguio, 130 miles (210 kilometres) north of Manila, thousands of homeless residents have been living in city parks and on the streets since the first quake. Looting has broken out and 100 troops were deployed to maintain order.

The Philippine Air Force said flights of relief supplies had to be suspended because of fog and heavy rains in Baguio.

Most supplies are brought to Baguio by plane because the quake triggered landslides that closed roads. Crews have been working round-the-clock to open the roads.

The last time North Koreans were in Seoul was in 1985 when both sides exchanged dozens of dispersed family members for temporary reunions.

The delegates are the first North Koreans to travel across the border since the Seoul government announced last week that it would open its border to any North Korean travellers. Seoul challenged North Korea to do the same.

North Korea refused to reciprocate, but it apparently has decided to use the rally to expand contact with South Korean dissidents.

Organisers of the Seoul meeting said the North Koreans would have two rounds of talks in Seoul before they return across the border at Panmunjom on Friday.

American remains to be repatriated

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia, July 25, (AP): US military experts announced today they will repatriate six sets of human remains collected by Cambodians that are believed to be of Americans missing from the Vietnam war.

The remains are to be flown to Hawaii tomorrow in the first repatriation of suspected MIA remains from Cambodia, said the mission, led by US Army Col. Joseph Harvey.

Four sets of remains were from outlying provinces and two were from Choeung Ek, about 15 kilometres (10 miles) southwest of Phnom Penh.

The Communist Khmer Rouge are thought to have killed at least 20,000 people at Choeung Ek during four years of rule that began when the United States withdrew from Indo-China in 1975.

It was unclear whether the remains found in Choeung Ek dated from before the Khmer Rouge government, from 1975 to 1979, or from the period after the US came and did our work and the co-operation was everything we asked for," Harvey told reporters after a meeting with Cambodia's First Deputy Foreign Minister Dith Munty.

Eighty-two US Americans were Missing in Action in Cambodia during the Indo-Chinese war. The US specialists examined 28 sets of remains thought to be those of Americans that had been collected by the government in recent years.

Harvey said the six sets of remains that are to be repatriated warranted further investigation to reach a positive identification.

A 14-member US repatriation team is scheduled to arrive in Phnom Penh early tomorrow on an air force C-141 to transport the remains to the joint casualty resolution centre and the Army Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii, agencies that account for America's war-time missing.

The US mission, which started yesterday, broke a long political stalemate between Washington and successive communist governments in Phnom Penh. It was the first contact over Americans missing in action since the United States broke relations with Phnom Penh in 1975 at the end of the war.

Harvey and five colleagues from the Hawaii laboratory began examining remains soon after they arrived in Phnom Penh yesterday from Bangkok, Thailand.

There was little ceremony, and the only public stir arose when the US Air Force crew of seven that flew the experts to Phnom Penh made a tour of the city's open market.

Dressed in flight suits and aviator glasses, they attracted a crowd and seemed to startle merchants and shoppers for whom Americans in uniform once were a familiar sight.

Charles to attend Akihito ceremony

TOKYO, July 25, (Reuters): Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, will be among the guests at enthronement ceremonies for Emperor Akihito in Tokyo in November, Japan's Foreign Ministry said on Tuesday.

Other guests will include Charles's wife, Princess Diana, US Vice-President Dan Quayle and Philippine President Corason Aquino, the ministry said in a statement.

It said representatives from 102 countries and the United Nations would attend the ceremonies on November 12.

Akihito became emperor on the death of his father, Hirohito, in January last year.

Roh predicts breakthrough toward unifying before 50th 'versary of partition

SEOUL, July 25, (AP): President Roh Tae-Woo promised today to open exchanges with communist North Korea and predicted that a breakthrough toward unifying Korea could come before the 50th anniversary of the peninsula's partition.

"I firmly believe and epochal moment for unification will be made within the next five years," Roh told a meeting of ruling party officials.

Roh, who heads the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, said his South Korean government would make all-out efforts to make major progress in talks with its northern communist rival before 1995.

1995 is the 50th anniversary of the division of the

Korean peninsula into the communist North and the capitalist South. Both Koreas have publicly expressed hope that the land would be united before the 50th anniversary.

A five-member North Korean delegation is scheduled to arrive in Seoul tomorrow to prepare for a "pan-national unification rally" to be held with South Korean dissidents at the border village of Panmunjom on Aug 15.

The North Korean delegation, led by veteran lawmaker Chon Kum Chul, will arrive in Seoul by way of Panmunjom for two days of talks with leaders of the United National Movement for Democracy, a major dissident alliance.

Three delegates representing Koreans living abroad will also attend the Seoul meeting, which will focus on the agenda and composition of delegations to the rally, the first of its kind in the history of the two rival nations.

South Korea sent a letter to North Korea today guaranteeing full support and safe passage of the North Korean travellers.

The rally marks the first contact between civilian organisations of the two Koreas. The South Korean government has blocked such contacts for fear that they could turn into an anti-Seoul campaign.

Previously, several North Korean delegations have visited Seoul to discuss family reunions and political deals.

'Disband within 15 days'

Gorbachev threatens to use military against outlaw groups

MOSCOW, July 25, (AP): President Mikhail Gorbachev issued a decree today giving armed outlaw groups 15 days to turn in their weapons and disband, or else he'll use military force against them, Tass reported.

"Armed units, not envisaged under Soviet legislation, are illegal and to be disbanded within 15 days," the decree said. "Weapons, ammunition, explosive substances, military hardware and other types of munitions are to be surrendered to representatives of the USSR Interior Ministry within the same period of time."

Tass, the official Soviet news agency, said the decree was issued in response to armed groups being formed in regions of the country beset

by ethnic violence during the last two years.

Tass did not specify which regions the decree referred to, but said last week that outlaw bands were on rampages in the republics of Armenia and Kirghizia.

Tass had said armed mobs attacked government installations and seized weapons from police stations in Armenia, where at least 200 people have died in two years of ethnic fighting. The violence has been directed against residents of the neighbouring republic of Azerbaijan.

In Kirghizia, where 212 people have died in ethnic unrest since June 4, Tass said last week that police had confiscated 26 firearms and detained 180 people.

Gorbachev's decree authorised local police, as well as officials of the republics, the Interior Ministry and the KGB to confiscate all weapons from the outlaw groups within 15 days.

If the armed groups do not surrender their weapons and disband, "the Soviet Interior Ministry has the right to use interior troops, and units of the Soviet Defence Ministry may become involved in some operations," Tass said.

Gorbachev's decree was aimed at outlaw groups that threaten people's lives, seize arms, assault soldiers and police, and attack military and civilian facilities, Tass said.

"They are connected with the commission of other grave crimes, and lead to casualties among innocent people," Tass said. "Criminals, draft dodgers and deserters from the armed forces are often drawn into these groups."

A top aide to Gorbachev said on Tuesday the Soviet government would probably agree on the draft of a new "union treaty" by December, granting them greater independence from the Kremlin.

But Gorbachev told his inner Presidential Council on Friday he believed eight key areas, including defence, currency, energy and transport, had to stay under central control, aide Grigory Yavlinskiy told a news conference.

Gorbachev's demand seemed certain to stir opposition in the increasingly rebellious republics. An estimated 20,000 Ukrainians marched to Kiev Town Hall on Tuesday to raise the blue-and-yellow nationalist flag for the first time in decades.

The crowd completely blocked the Kreshchatik, Kiev's main boulevard after the flag was brought from St. Sophia's Cathedral where it was consecrated.

Pro-independence deputies from the Democratic bloc of the republic's parliament addressed the crowd to chants of "Independence" and "Down with Kravchuk."

Gorbachev told developing countries on Tuesday that aid from the Kremlin would be reviewed to take into account the "real capabilities of our country."

Gorbachev made the statement in a decree. It could be primarily meant for Cuba, one of the Soviet Union's biggest recipients of foreign aid, and could signal the end of the era when the Kremlin propped up the economies of its Marxist allies at the expense of its own.

The Finnish government rejected accused hijacker Oleg Kozlov's plea for asylum, and ordered on Tuesday that he be extradited to the Soviet Union.

Finnish authorities said Soviet officials were expected to collect Kozlov in Helsinki within two weeks. He would be the second Soviet man sent home for prosecution in five recent hijackings of Soviet airliners to Finland and Sweden.

Murky wave of fear, death

SIDOMULIO, Indonesia, July 25, (Reuters): Death and beatings continue in Indonesia's northernmost province of Aceh and fear of a murky group of rebels is driving outsiders to abandon the province in droves.

Thousands of Javanese peasants resettled in Aceh (pronounced Achah) have streamed out of the province, fleeing from unknown rebels who attack their villages and kill their leaders.

Sidomulio, a remote Javanese resettlement village in the heart of the danger zone on Sumatra's northeastern tip, is now a ghost town, the only sign of life a pack of hungry dogs.

Judging from the houses, most neatly padlocked but all first emptied of anything portable, their owners don't plan to come back in the foreseeable future.

Scared "Wouldn't you be scared if you were up here and they came and killed your village head in the dead of the night?" asked an intelligence official tracking two visiting foreign journalists.

Local people say trans-migrants in Aceh, part of Jakarta's plan to resettle people from overcrowded Java, have become symbols of the central government, resented by many Acehnese.

"Look, they come here and get given land, a house, money for two years food and seed capital. We locals have to work the same land and what do we get? Nothing," said a young Acehnese.

"I feel badly for them," said a Javanese in the provincial capital of Banda Aceh. "They are poor people who were thrown out of Java like rubbish and now are being thrown out of here. They are being killed by symbolism."

Ex-soldiers The few trans-migrants that are left have no protection.

The government calls the rebels the GPK, or security disturbing movement. Many believe they are disgruntled ex-soldiers kicked out of the army for disciplinary offences. They have targeted police and the military most consistently.

"Police protection, are you kidding? They were the first to leave," said a local resident. "There isn't a guy in uniform who would dare to show his face up here now."

The military, whose heavy-handed tactics are said to have encouraged local support for the rebels, seem to be deliberately promoting the climate of fear.

Soldiers speed up the main highway in broad daylight, headlights glaring and semi-automatic guns pointing menacingly at a clutch of suspected rebels in their truck.

Violence "At roadblocks, if your papers are out of order they'll force you to eat them. You're supposed to keep your ID card in your front pocket. If you take it out of your pocket they'll think you have a gun and clobber you," said another local man.

At least 40 civilians and probably as many troops have died in the past four months, and over 60 people have been arrested.

People talk about the violence in hushed tones, and sometimes not at all. "We can't talk here; even the cups have eyes," said a customer.

Fear feeds the rumour mill. In the capital of neighbouring North Sumatra province, Medan, there are stories that rebels set fire to 80 shops in the Acehnese town of Langsa. Acehnese shopkeepers sitting in burnt-out market stalls in Langsa itself say an electrical fault in a bakery caused the fire.

Foreigners Foreigners working at the massive government-run natural-gas plant, which provides Jakarta with foreign exchange and adds to local resentment of central government, are reluctant to travel by road.

"I wouldn't dream of driving up there," said a seismologist in Medan, 300 kms (180 miles) south of the Lhokseumawe gas plant where he works.



Kirghizia street

A soldier from Soviet Interior Ministry troops guard over a main street in Kirghizia as children play around. (Reuters wirephoto)

Former official Kalugin

KGB probes

MOSCOW, July 25, (AP): The Soviet prosecutor has stepped up the government's get-tough policy toward a maverick former KGB counterintelligence chief by launching a criminal investigation against him.

The daily newspaper Izvestia said yesterday the prosecutor is investigating Oleg D. Kalugin under a law against divulging state secrets.

Kalugin, who worked as an operative in the United States from 1958 to 1970, in recent weeks has been waging a public relations campaign against the KGB. He has been speaking at demonstrations and in interviews with Western and Soviet reporters.

He has said the KGB still taps telephones, infiltrates Soviet life, including the Russian Orthodox Church and labour organisations, and engages in dirty tricks.

In a recent article, he said about 20 agents who have defected to the West in the past decade have caused the "total collapse" of many Soviet spy rings.

Izvestia did not indicate which of Kalugin's remarks constitute state secrets.

Serbs rally

Pledge to follow Croatia

ZAGREB, July 25, (AP): About 50,000 Serbs rallied today in Croatia to demand autonomy within Yugoslavia's second-largest republic, the national Tanjug news agency reported.

The Serbs gathered in the western Croatian town of Srb to attend a ceremony proclaiming their "sovereignty and autonomy" within that republic, Tanjug said.

The declaration said that if Croatia decided to declare itself independent of Yugoslavia, the Serbian region within that republic would in turn secede from Croatia.

Yugoslavia is a patchwork of diverse ethnic groups bound together in a loose federation of six republics and two provinces. Yugoslavia's largest republic, Serbia, is still ruled by hard-line communists, while Croatia has

moved toward a democratic government.

The rally and proclamation by the Serbian minority living within Croatia coincided with a Croatian parliamentary session to revise the republic's constitution and erase the last vestiges of 45 years of communist rule.

Serbs in Croatia claim the changes will infringe on their national rights. Their proclamation called for creation of the Serbian minority's own assembly and formed a Serbian national council to act as the assembly's executive branch.

Croatian President Franjo Tudjman opened today's parliamentary session by calling on deputies to "safeguard the democratic changes" the state has achieved.

Palmos lays ghost of Viet ambush

Ridding the Devils

HONG KONG, July 25, (Reuters): In Saigon's Cholon district at breakfast time on May 5, 1968, Frank Palmos came as close to death as any man can and survived physically unscathed.

Against all the odds, the Australian managed to flee the scene of an ambush in which Viet Cong guerrillas shot dead four of his fellow journalists, including Reuters correspondents Bruce Pigott, an Australian, and Ron Laramy, a Briton.

The other two journalists in a small jeep, driving in Cholon to check reports of fighting in what became known as the Battle for Saigon, were Australians John Cantwell of Time magazine and Michael Birch of the Australian Associated Press.

For Palmos, then a 28-year-old freelance writer covering the Vietnam war, the nightmare did not end until January 15, 1968, when, after an extraordinary piece of detective work, he came face to face with the man who led the Viet Cong ambush team.

Palmos, who admits the years leading up to the 1968 confrontation left him emotionally scarred, has written of the ambush and his subsequent search for the leader of the squad that killed his friends in a newly published book, "Ridding the Devils."

His description of the moment he came face to face with Co Van Cuong, also known as Nguyen Van Cuong, the ambush leader, in a Ho Chi Minh City hotel 20 years after the event is gripping.

"Forcing myself to look at him, I felt an ancient adrenalin rush, as if my body were saying 'You will have to deal with this man. There is no retreat,'" Palmos wrote.

Later, after an Australian television journalist filming the encounter had asked Cuong what it felt like to be sitting opposite a man he had tried to kill, Palmos said: "I had hunted down the quarry only to discover I was no hunter at all; there was no man to kill, but there was much that was left unsaid."

"I found myself less concerned with Van Cuong's culpability or otherwise than with the fact that we were unable, in these circumstances, to open our

hearts to each other... far from wanting to hurt this man, I found myself wanting to make it easier for him to tell his story."

Palmos, who said he escaped by fleeing death and then running for safety with a Viet Cong guerrilla chasing him for 75 yards (metres) and firing at him, says in his book that he established that Cuong, although leader of the squad, was not the man who pursued him.

In his description of the trauma of the ambush, the years in between and his successful tracking down of the Viet Cong squad leader, Palmos said he finally has put to rest rumours that circulated in the months after the ambush, that he had jumped out of the jeep just before it turned into the square where it took place.

"As if it wasn't enough to have lived through the ambush itself," he says, "I had also to deal with a vicious story circulated in Australia that I had never been on the jeep in the first place.... The gossip was around as late as 1982 and it was still distressing."

"This too was something I would have to deal with if the catharsis was ever to be complete."

Palmos wrote that he had details of the last moments of the four journalists, details that only Cuong as the squad leader could have known.

In their dramatic confrontation, Cuong confirmed the details that Palmos had carried in his mind over the years, and he quotes the former Viet Cong squad leader.

"I didn't see the first part of the ambush... by the time I came out I saw there were two killed instantly, two wounded. One wounded man was starting to crawl to the side of the road."

Palmos himself wrote: "The wounded man he saw crawling was the driver, John Cantwell. I had certainly reported him dead, killed by the man who eventually chased me."

The book establishes that the guerrilla who chased Palmos was then killed by rockets fired by a US Cobra helicopter gunship flying over the area.



Rainer Ortleb gives an interview in East Berlin. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bulgaria fails to elect president

SOFIA, Bulgaria, July 25, (AP): The deeply divided Parliament failed to elect a national president yesterday to replace socialist Petar Mladenov, who resigned July 6 in a row over asking for tanks to be used against demonstrators.

Two rounds of voting failed to produce the two-thirds majority needed in the 400-seat Parliament to elect one of the three candidates.

Contending were Chavdar Kyuranov of the governing Socialist Party, formerly the Communist Party, Petar Dertiev, leader of the Social Democrats and the candidate of the opposition Union of democratic forces, or UDF, and Viktor Valkov of the mainstream Agrarian Party, which formerly was a communist ally.

In the first round, Kyuranov got 217 of the 383 valid ballots cast, Dertiev got 130, and Valkov, 36.

A journalist for Bulgaria's official news agency Bta said that in the second round — with fewer valid ballots cast — Kyuranov got 211 votes, Dertiev, 131, and Valkov, 37.

A total of 267 votes are needed to win. The Socialists hold 211 seats, the UDF, 144, and the Agrarians, 16. Also holding seats are six independents and 23 members of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms, which is mainly supported by members of Bulgaria's 1 million ethnic Turkish minority.

The deep political rifts and the distribution of the seats had made it unlikely any of the three candidates would secure the two-thirds majority.

Political analysts and some deputies suggested that new candidates may be suggested following yesterday's inconclusive votes. Balloting opened after four days of procedural wrangling between the Socialists and UDF. Opposition leader Zhelyu Zhelev threatened a walkout of his deputies yesterday if there was no halt in what he called the obstructive tactics of the socialists.

Bulgaria has been without a president since Mladenov resigned 18 days ago after experts confirmed a recording on which he called for tanks to move against anti-government demonstrators last December. No tanks were used, but Mladenov previously had denied making the comment.



Czechoslovakian President Vaclav Havel leaves Prague for Austria. He is due to open the Salzburg music festival tomorrow and is expected to meet Austrian President Kurt Waldheim. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gabon policewoman decapitated in voodoo-style rites

LIBREVILLE, Gabon, July 25, (UPI): Police have arrested 30 people after the discovery of the corpse of a Gabonese policewoman who evidently was decapitated by machete in a human sacrifice that climaxed three days of voodoo-style rites at a witch-doctor's home, a state-run newspaper said today.

The Gabonese newspaper L'Union said police Sgt Flavienne Nzoua was a follower of the 'Bwiti' sect widely practised all over the Central West African nation of Gabon. She was on maternity leave at the home in the eastern Libreville suburb of Joseph Nzoghé, a celebrated leader of the secret society when the rites were staged, said the newspaper.

Feud over unity polls

De Maiziere confident

EAST BERLIN, July 25, (AP): East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere convened his cabinet today, but there were two empty chairs, the result of the party's decision to leave the government in a clash over united German elections.

The departure of the centrist Liberal Party and a threat by the left-leaning Social Democrats to follow suit, has jeopardised the broad coalition chosen to steer the nation to unity with West Germany.

The Social Democrats, the nation's second-biggest party, have said they will leave the government by Friday unless their demands are met.

Sabine Bergmann-Pohl, president of the parliament and a Christian Democrat, pleaded for unity and told the Liberals that they can return to the government.

"The door to the coalition is not entirely shut," she said. The Social Democrats and the Liberals want East Germany to dissolve itself on Dec 1. They want single elections across German lands to be held on Dec 2 for a new united parliament.

Parties would need at least 5 per cent of the vote from the entire combined electorate to be represented in the new legislature.

De Maiziere and several smaller parties, including the former communists ousted last year, want East Germany to wait until just after the Dec 2 elections before it ceases to be a nation.

In that case, the elections would be held separately in both German states.

How a party did in its own country would determine its representation in parliament. Under that scenario, a party would have a far better chance of winning 5 per cent of the vote in East Germany than if the electorates were combined.

As a result, holding separate elections would increase the likelihood that smaller East German political parties would get

seats in a new parliament.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, like De Maiziere a Christian Democrat, wants smaller East German conservative parties to win seats so they can bolster a Christian Democrat coalition in a united German government.

The Social Democrats believe they will be hurt by the separate elections because the left-leaning vote would be split among smaller leftist parties.

Political analysts say the outcome of the feud could help determine whether Kohl, or the Social Democrats, govern a united Germany.

The Liberals resigned from the government last yesterday. The two Liberals in the cabinet — Regional Affairs Minister Manfred Preiss and Construction Minister Axel Viehweg — skipped a cabinet meeting this morning.

If the Social Democrats also leave the government, De Maiziere could lose control of parliament, where a two-thirds majority is needed to enact unification.

However, all major parties are committed to unification. The strife, if not settled, would more likely slow the process rather than derail it.

In an interview with the West German newspaper Bild today, De Maiziere was quoted as saying that the Liberals' departure "would not hinder my government" and that the process of unifying Germany would be completed.

A unified Germany will be governed mostly by current West German rules, although East Germany's liberal abortion law will be retained for a while, officials said yesterday.

Former Nato secretary-general Joseph Luns has warned that a united Germany might use its military and economic might to expand into neighbouring territory, a Dutch magazine reported today.

Boesak reaffirms decision to quit

JOHANNESBURG, July 25, (AP): Anti-apartheid leader Rev. Allan Boesak today reaffirmed his decision to resign his church posts and seek a political career after a scandal over his relationship with a white journalist.

Boesak said he had not changed his mind and would step down as a Protestant minister despite pleas from other religious leaders and friends not to leave the church.

Boesak said he wanted to play a role in South African politics.

"I have... decided to offer my services to the people of this country to bring about a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa. I am prepared to play any role which I may be called upon to play in this regard," he said in a statement released by his lawyer.

Church officials had pleaded with Boesak to reconsider when he announced earlier this month that he was resigning. But he said today he

could not alter his decision to resign as a minister of the Sendingkerk Church and as president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, an international council of Protestant churches.

The colourful, or mixed-race, leader said he would continue his relationship with television star and producer Elna Botha. Press revelations about Boesak's relationship with Ms Botha led him to announce he was resigning.

Boesak said he and his wife Dorothy would divorce. He said he was not ashamed of his relationship with Ms Botha and hoped the press would ignore his private life.

Ms Botha, in a separate statement, said she would continue to see Boesak. She said her marriage to television journalist Colin Fluxman had broken down before she formed a relationship with Boesak earlier this year.

Ms Botha works for the state-run South African Broadcasting Corp.

ANC to suspend armed activities

JOHANNESBURG, July 25, (AP): African National Congress guerrillas have not killed anyone since the organisation began peace negotiations with the government, black leader Nelson Mandela said today.

Mandela also said the ANC national executive committee decided at a two-day meeting it will suspend all armed activities once obstacles to negotiation with the white-led government have been removed.

He told a news conference the ANC leadership is confident that progress would be made on removing such obstacles at an Aug 6 meeting with the government.

"The government must remove all the obstacles. Then we will suspend the armed struggle," Mandela said. But he said the timing of such a ceasefire was negotiable. He also indicated the ANC might accept a government commitment to the changes rather than insisting on the reforms being implemented before ceasing armed action.

The ANC is demanding an end to the state of emergency in Natal province, repeal of laws restricting political freedom, freeing of prisoners convicted of politically motivated crimes, and that some 20,000 exiles be allowed to return home without fear of arrest.

The government wants the ANC to formally end its military activities before negotiations begin with several black and white groups on a new constitution intended to end apartheid and give the black majority a vote in national affairs.

Mandela said there was no truth in local news reports, quoting government sources, about an alleged plot by communist members of the ANC's military wing to mount a secret insurrection.

"I don't need to repudiate anybody because there is no such plot," Mandela said. "Members of the national executive committee of the ANC as well as the entire membership are unanimous on working with the government to bring about a peaceful transformation."

But he also acknowledged the ANC leadership was having difficulty getting word to members of its guerrilla wing — spear of the nation — about the plan to suspend armed action if obstacles to negotiation are removed.

The government has granted amnesty to certain ANC leaders and allowed them to enter the country to begin reforming the organisation after years of banning. But it is still illegal for ANC guerrillas to infiltrate and store weapons.

Police have said they arrested 40 ANC and South African Communist Party members in recent weeks. ANC internal chairman Walter Sisulu has said 150 ANC members have been arrested recently and that he assumes guerrillas have been carrying on their "normal activities."

Mandela said he had spoken last Friday to President F.W. de Klerk about the recent arrests and asked him to give the ANC more time.

"The year of banning, like the year of the military wing, who have been deployed in the country are still operating according to the old instructions and we have been trying to reach all of them," Mandela said.

He also said, "as long as apartheid is in place, the armed struggle will go on."

Mandela said that the ANC, "in regard to the peace process that we're starting, we have killed not a single person."

He also said no ANC guerrillas had infiltrated South Africa since the May 2-4 peace talks with the government, when both sides agreed to commit themselves to a peaceful resolution of the country's problems.

His comment about the ANC not having killed anyone since the peace process began appeared to refer to operations planned and directed by its armed wing.

In faction fighting between ANC supporters and rival black groups, hundreds of people have died in the past few months. ANC opponents say guerrillas were involved in the violence.

A leading human rights group urged the South African government to scrap detention without trial, saying "awesome" state power obstructed reform and encouraged torture of detainees.

The Human Rights Commission, which monitors, investigates and publicises human rights abuses, said the Internal Security Act, known as the ISA, contained most of the emergency powers scrapped in all but a few cases of the country last month.

Six people were killed yesterday in clashes between supporters of Mandela and followers of the Zulu-based Inkatha movement in a black township near Johannesburg.

State television said the fighting erupted at a black workers' hostel in Sebokeng.

South Africa's cities are ill-prepared to meet the needs of millions of black migrants flocking in and they could collapse under the strain, a private think-tank said yesterday.

"South African cities are starting to exhibit some indicators of breakdown," the liberal Urban Foundation said in a report based on five years of research and 500 papers by foreign and South African academics.

In all, some 30 people including the leader of the occult sect were arrested following the macabre discovery.

Only two of the three kids had been ritually slaughtered by cutting their throats, while the third was discovered still tethered to a bed. Nzoua apparently had paid for the third kid whose life was possibly spared in return for the taking of her own, said the security sources.

The case recalled another bizarre affair in which another Bwiti seer, Mba Ntem, presided over the devouring with various acolytes of another of his followers, Ondo Ndongo, in the southern Libreville suburb of D'Owendo.

Over KD10m social aid paid out

63,832 families benefit

THE assistant undersecretary for social care at the Social Affairs and Labour Ministry Dr Latifa Al Rajab has said that financial aid paid to needy families during the first half of the current year amounted to KD10,107,889.

She told a local daily that 63,832

Kuwaiti families with a total number of 110,803 citizens benefitted. Last year KD7,975,751 was distributed among 61,170 families with 108,550 members.

Increase

She added that this also indicates that there is an increase in the size of aid during

this year reaching KD2,132,138 and a similar increase in the beneficiaries up to 2,062 families with 2,253 members.

She said that the increase is attributed to the constant rise of the value of public aid since 1986 from KD250 to 400, and from KD40 to KD132, particularly following

the Amiri grant which involved a KD30 increase.

She pointed out that beneficiaries of this aid included divorcees, orphans, jobless patients, handicapped, old people, financially disabled single women, families of prisoners and families of students.

Australia to resume shipments of sheep

SYDNEY, July 25, (AP): New shipments of live sheep are expected to leave for the Middle East in the next few weeks under stricter rules that the industry hopes will help revive the stalled trade.

Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation chairman Dick Austen said today that a new live sheep shipment to Saudi Arabia was imminent and that the trade was beginning to put itself in order again after costly disruptions.

"These conditions will give us a strong degree of confidence about the status of age and health in our export sheep," he told a farmers group.

Australia's live-sheep trade with Saudi Arabia has been disrupted since last August after shipments were rejected because the Saudis said the animals were diseased.

Rejected

The trade resumed last December. But four shipments were rejected April and May, and exporters have not been assigning ships to the route.

In the latest incident, 21,000 sheep were rejected by Bahrain this month because of an unacceptably high level of the disease Scabby Mouth.

"The problems had turned into a very, very, nasty situation" which would take a while to repair, Austen said.

"For the last 12 months it's been a battle to get the whole thing changed so we can be responsive to the real Saudi demands of quality and health," he said.

Financial support for boat owners

THE chairman of the board at the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij Al Sabah has issued a decision providing KD500 financial support for owners of fishing boats who possess licences issued by the authority.

The decision which appeared in the official gazette, Kuwait Al Youm, said that the authority of the financial support must have a valid fishing licence issued at least one year before the issue of the decision and that they could collect the financial support for a maximum of five fishing boats at KD500 each.

Under the decision, qualified beneficiaries must also be practising fishing activities within Kuwait's territorial waters in line with the regulations enforced in this field, and that they must not have been legally sentenced for violation of decree 46 for 1980 and subsequent decision regulating the fishing profession within Kuwait's territorial waters.

The financial support will be paid in cash once to every qualified beneficiary.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Ibrahim said that the authority is keen to plant all Kuwait express roads with trees.

In an interview with a local daily, he said that the authority will sign a contract to plant express roads with trees and other types of bushes.

Othman in London

ABU DHABI, July 25, (Kuna): Member of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council, head of the Political Committee in Sudan, Othman Hassan left here today heading for London after a four-day visit to the United Arab Emirates.

The Sudanese official delivered a message to UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayyan from head of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council Gen. Omar Al Bashir on bilateral relations, developments in Sudan and developments on the Arab platform, the Gulf News Agency reported.



Hobby Courses

Within the framework of interviews with the directors and supervisors of summer clubs and members, Seyassah has met the director of the Salmiya Club for Girls, Zainab Hassan Bahho, who said that the total number of members at the club is 600.

Registration at the club is still in progress and serves the areas of Salmiya, Maidan Hawally and Ras Al Salmiya, she added. The summer clubs have given students, boys and girls, the chance to practise their hobbies, improve their talents, cultivate their skills and indulge in useful activities which deepen their sense of national responsibility and highlight their abilities to offer good social services, Bahho said.

She further added that the summer clubs have been successful in their educational and teaching missions as well as in protecting children from the delinquency associated with having nothing to do during the summer vacations.

The supervisor of science activities at the club, Nilli Mohammad said that the participants in the science activities total 15 students. There are a number of scientific projects under implementation, which include the sea and electronics projects, and research on dental care in the field of health.

Decor activities supervisor said that 20 students are operating in this field and that work currently in

progress include the making of furniture, chests, doors, key holders and others, and that most decor activities involved timber-carving projects.

The supervisor of library activities, Inshirah Yousef said that the number of students working in this section range between 70 to 80, from the kindergarten up to a secondary education level. More than 40 students visit the library daily. Students are trained in how to locate and pick up the book of their choice, and shown how they could prepare synopsis of its contents for their working and pedagogical purposes, the supervisor said.

The drawing activities supervisor said that this hobby attracts about 40 students from the total number of club members and that the activities involve embroidery, artistic drawings on glass, and on wool as well as on carpets. Students are being well taken care of and guided to cultivate their skills and refine their talents. The supervisors of the cultural section said that 25 students took part in this field with a high sense of co-operation, who collectively issue a wall mag called 'Sanabi' with contributions from students of different educational levels.

Pictures show girls in a latch hook class (above) and in a baking class below.



Oil workers' demands fair: union chairman

Salaries not good enough

THE chairman of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation's trade union, Hamad Soyah described the demands of the union as fair.

Speaking to a local daily, the official said that KPC's description of such demands being raised for the first time were baseless as these had been tabled way back in 1960.

Elucidating, he said that the workers demands included: increasing wages, increasing basic allowances, including shift allowances, payment commensurate with the nature of work and payment of risk allowances.

Specifically, he said that each allowance should equal at least one quarter of the basic salary as is the system applied in all countries of the world.

Further, he said that the current labour law of the oil sector had been enacted in 1969. Since then, the union had been calling for enhancing the hazard allowance. Upon the nationalisation of Kuwait Oil Company in 1974, the union had suspended their demands and concentrated on other issues, including Kuwaitising of the oil sector and creating suitable opportunities for citizens to join the sector, by introducing training courses.

Again during the 1980 Iran-Iraq war the union had suspen-

ded any demands. However, in 1988, the ceasefire had been announced and the union reiterated its demands in 1988 and 1989. However, the official said that these legitimate demands had been rejected by the oil companies as well as the Kuwaiti Petroleum Corporation.

Furthermore, the official said that the corporation had decided in 1989 to reduce the aptitude allowance from 7.5 per cent to 5 per cent of the basic salary. Several negotiations between the corporation and the union had failed to resolve the issue.

The union had recently recommended that minutes of negotiations should be recorded, but the corporation had rejected this suggestion. Keeping an issue unresolved is not acceptable to the union, Soyah said.

He added that the union had previously called for a strike, but HH the Crown Prince and Premier had requested that the strike be suspended and instead to engage in dialogue. The union had immediately responded to HH the Crown Prince and Premier's request and entered into new negotiations with the corporation. Unfortunately, no fruitful outcome resulted. He commented that the union

had met with HH the Crown Prince and Premier last week and appraised him of the situation.

The next phase will witness direct negotiations between the union and the minister of oil, the union leader said and added that he was not optimistic of the outcome. However, he commented that the union had very high hopes in the intervention of HH the Crown Prince and Premier.

He said that the union is looking forward to settling the problems locally, without the need for intervention — either on an Arab or international level. He commented that though he is the assistant secretary-general of the Petrochemical Labour Union, he has never conveyed the problem to this institution.

He said that labour in the oil sector work 12 hours daily and in general the salary paid is not commensurate with the high cost of living.

Soyah said that there are about 125 casualties among workers has been certified, including 90 workers who had been superannuated. He called for setting up a special hospital for labourers working in the oil sector, clarifying that in all oil producing countries, there were special hospitals for workers of the oil sector.

Travel agencies regularly inspected

TRAVELLERS, this season, who had several complaints have stated that they are unaware of whom they should submit their representation to.

A local daily interviewed the general controller of the Air Transport Department, Bader Al Mershed Al Mershed who said that the department is striving to achieve its local and international objectives.

On the international level, the department adheres to international civil aviation agreements in addition to concluding bilateral agreements. The department is responsible to contribute to international and regional activities in the fields of civil aviation and related international relations and organising the exchange of air transport rights and freedom. It also oversees related facilities to be extended for streamlining passengers and the movement of goods.

On the local level, the official said that the department organises air transport between Kuwait and other countries in accordance with legislations followed in Kuwait.

The department organises flight movements at Kuwait International Airport in addition to preparing relevant studies and compiling statistics, the official said. He added that the Air Transport Department is the official authority empowered to apply regulations governing the air transport market in Kuwait.

Travel activities should be licensed by the department, the official said and added that his department conducts periodical inspections of travel agencies to ensure they abide by the law.

Indian universities

THE First Secretary at the Indian embassy in Kuwait Abdul Khaleq Mohammad has said that there are more than 120 universities in India with worldwide recognition, providing different disciplines of education and majors.

He told a local daily that most Indian universities open up during the first week of July and that some start in mid-August each year. Registration requires the completion of a series of formalities such as getting admission approval from one of these universities, which will have to be presented to the consular section for completion and issue of visas.

He said that the embassy will provide visas to students who received approvals from the Indian Foreign Ministry. Documents needed for registration at the Indian universities include an attested statement of grades in English, a certificate of clean criminal record, a certificate of freedom from diseases, a certificate of birth, main passport pages copies and three passport size photos.

Modernised maintenance

THE director of maintenance department at the Ministry of Public Works Eid Al Khaldi has said that the department has modernised its equipment to keep abreast with maintenance requirements.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that the modernisation process had covered light and heavy equipment. Meanwhile, the official disclosed that there are about 99 Kuwaiti employees in his department with 16 engineers, 25 assistant engineers, 39 foremen and 19 administrative staff.

THE Middle East represents the world's fastest growing defence and security equipment market, a trend firmly set to continue throughout the 1990s in line with the region's rising energy export earnings and the importance it places on maintaining a modern defence and law enforcement infrastructure.

Combined defence budgets of the Middle Eastern countries exceed \$60 billion annually, an average of thirty per cent of all government spending. By far the largest market in the region is Saudi Arabia with an annual defence and security expenditure of \$15 billion.

Against this background plans are now well advanced to stage the Middle East's first defence and security exhibition — Medef 91 — October 28-31, 1991 at the new Bahrain International Exhibition Centre.

Medef 91 has the full support of the Bahrain government and is being

Review of regional water expertise

Water conference, Oct 7-10

THE deputy director of the Water Resources Development Centre at the Ministry of Electricity and Water and Deputy chairperson of the board at the Bahraini Science and Water Technologies Society and board member of the International Water Desalination Establishment Dr Fatima Al Awadi has said that the first conference on water will be held from October 7-10 this year under the title "Water and Development in the Gulf, Major Future Challenges".

She told a local daily that the conference will outline the water strategy in the region, and it will provide a good opportunity for brotherly acquaintance and exchange of technical expertise between the GCC countries in particular.

Objectives

She reviewed the objectives of the conference which included the exchange and dissemination of information and expertise among workers and officials operating in the water technology fields, discussion of existing challenges in the Gulf to guarantee the provision and

increase of water resources needed for the continued security, stability and luxury of the area and evaluation of natural water resources and industrial and technological alternatives available to run and develop these resources.

Other objectives of the conference include review and analysis of requirements for building the needed industrial base to provide the technologies equipment, spare parts, engineering services and other needs in the light of future aspirations and plans, review of regional expertise in the field of managing water and sanitary grids, and ways to step up productivity and efficiency in the operation and maintenance of water desalination plants and waste water recycling plants.

Review and evaluation of research, training and educational programmes in the field of water resources developed by Gulf countries and determination of recommended change priorities, review of regional experiments to put an end to rising underground water level and programmes on

environmental protection will also be discussed.

Research

She said that about 500 participants are expected to partake in the activities of the conference representing ministries, government services, universities, institutes, water industries, consultancy offices, local contractors and others.

She pointed out that contributions to the conference will include research papers on water resources management and planning fresh, brackish and underground water resources, water and sanitary grids, purification and recycling of waste water, standardisation of water specifications, water resources economics, training in water resources management, irrigation and drainage, environmental effects and others.

She said that Kuwait will contribute 11 research papers to the conference, prepared by the Ministry of Electricity and Water, Public Works Ministry, Ministry of Health, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research and the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development.

1.9m tonnes dates produced

Around 18m palm trees in the Gulf

PALM trees are considered to be one of the most important fruit trees in the Arab and Islamic worlds. A palm tree represents a historical symbol for all Arabs anywhere in the world. Researchers believe that palm trees have been in existence for over 6,000 years and their native habitat is the north of the Arabian Gulf.

The total area in the United Arab Emirates planted with palm trees is estimated to be 714,000 domms consisting of over five million trees and last year, these trees produced 50,000 tons of dates. This represents 81 per cent of the total fruit production in the UAE.

Kuwait, which is characterised by poor and sandy soil is unfit for date agriculture and imports dates from Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Nevertheless, despite these shortcomings in the soil, Kuwait has a total of 58,000 planted palms.

Bahrain produces 12,000 tons of dates annually. Currently, a factory for the processing of dates is under construction at Salman Port in Bahrain. The maximum output of the factory is envisaged to be 1,500 tons of frozen and dried dates which is earmarked for local consumption.

Meanwhile, Oman, has a total of one million palm trees in different locations which produce 200 different types of dates — Khonaizi and Khaldi being the most popular.

Saudi Arabia is considered to be one of the most important states in relation to date production in Asia. It has a total of 11 million palm trees producing 500,000 tons annually. The kingdom donates most of its date production to the World Food Programme and the balance is sold during the hajj season.

An expert in palm trees at the General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources, Dr Awadh Mohammed Othman said that palm trees have gained importance by its many beneficial characteristics. It has the capability to grow in arid areas. He added that palm trees are considered one of the most fruitful trees among other fruit trees. They are easily multiplied by the use of seedlings. He indicated that there are a total of 2,000 types of palms known world-wide.

Regarding the nutritional value of dates, Othman stressed that dates have highly concentrated energy values due to its high sugar contents, which averages not less than 70 per cent of its weight.

It is established that dates contain higher nutritional values than other types of fruits.

Othman indicated that there are a total of 86 million palm trees in the world. The Arab world has a total of 63 million palm trees representing 73 per cent of world palms.

World production of dates is estimated at 2.6 million tons, of which 1.9 million tons is produced by the Arab world.

Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Tunisia are the main date exporters. Othman said that developing palm agriculture is not an easy undertaking. Most types of palm trees require four years, at least, to yield fruits.

He indicated that the individual consumption of dates is decreasing despite its nutritional value.

Maid acquitted of assault charges

THE court released a housemaid from charges reported by her employer that she had sexually assaulted her five year old daughter.

The court saw the young girl's testimony was not original due to her young age beside the conflicting statements made by the lady employer.

At the court the housemaid, who is a Filipino stated that she had not received her salary for four months. She added that her employer had faked such charges against her in order to avoid paying her the total amount of salary. She told the court that her employer had caused her many physical injuries in the past and

medical examinations revealed the same.

The court saw that the employer's accusations were baseless due to the fact that the housemaid was 42 years of age and that she had been treating her employer's five-year-old daughter as her own.

Meanwhile, a Syrian national notified the Salmiya Police Station that five million Lebanese lira were stolen from his house.

He informed investigators that he had hidden the money in the duct of the air-conditioner in his house. However, on his return from a trip abroad, he claimed that the money had disappeared.

Bahrain exhibition for arms equipment Oct '91

held under the auspices of the Bahrain Ministry of Defence and the Bahrain Ministry of the Interior.

The exhibition will introduce a comprehensive range of equipment and technology for the region's external defence forces as well as law enforcement agencies including the police, internal and border security services, militia and paramilitary who will be officially invited by the Bahrain government to attend from throughout the Middle East.

Bahrain is the ideal venue for Medef 91 being central to the region's communications networks and physically linked to Saudi Arabia, the region's most important market.

Medef 91 is organised by Arabian Exhibition Management of Bahrain in association with London-based Overseas Exhibition Services who organise the highly acclaimed Defence Services Asia in Kuala Lumpur and the Asian Defence Services Exhibition in Bangkok.

134 receiving field training in health sciences

Trainees to be evaluated

FIELD training offered to students at the Health Sciences College is aimed at providing knowledge with vital bearing on the theoretical education of their studies, and at giving them the chance to understand the technological practices employed in the environment where they will operate.

Students currently receiving field training

count 134, distributed over the Public Health Ministry, Kuwait Municipality, Environment Protection Centre, Public Works Ministry, the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait Oil Company, Kuwait Flour and Bakeries Company and the Kuwait Dairy Company.

Training supervision is provided by

supervisors of the scientific divisions at the college.

Conditions for the field training include that the trainee must have passed 42 study courses at the college, and accumulated more than 200 hours of training.

The evaluation of trainee performance will be based on a report presented at the

end of the training programme. Their reports will be submitted by the training authority on attendance, and interaction with other participants in the training, demonstrative charts produced by the trainee at the end of the training period which involve graphic representations or industrial process, and an oral exam to determine the true level of benefit.

Alarm over decline of Arabic language

DR SALEM AL SARI, professor of Sociology at Kuwait University, has said that the effect of non-Arab identity, has been a source of fear for a number of reasons.

This is because of the high density of expat labour communities in the Arab countries, the wide variety of nationalities, and related different cultural backgrounds, the various patterns of social conduct and levels of education.

He said that the end-product is, as expected, a regression not a progression of the Arabic language in different walks of daily life and in various major sectors, such as labour, production and service sectors.

He pointed out that researchers have of late raised an alarm regarding the severe blows sustained by the Arabic language, whether it spoken or written form. This, he said is obvious in the daily dealings in the Arabic speaking countries, through the need to communicate with expat baby-sitters and maids, or in the trading and economic dealings in public markets.

He added that the continued neglect of the existing and future bad effects on the Arab language is not confined to the language alone but come to affect the social and cultural aspects of life.

He also said that what is going on is not simply a mere friction or cultural interaction or even process of mutual exchange of cultural riches, but is a sort of silent cultural conflict which takes different forms starting with "entrenchment" of foreign expressions in the language of daily use, as well as of patterns taking over daily routines of conduct and social dealings.

Philippines charity

THE Philippine embassy in co-operation with various organisations in Kuwait is launching a charity fund known as Project Help (Hope for Earthquake Laden Philippines) to help thousands of Filipinos back home get back on their feet after the devastation wreaked by earthquake in certain parts of the country. The project aims to solicit voluntary donations from private organisations and individuals.



Kuwaiti cadets graduate

Ten Kuwaiti cadets graduated with the 41st batch of Naval cadets in Egypt. Egyptian Defence Minister Gen. Yousef Sabri Abu Taleb said in a speech at the graduation ceremony that every new batch is a vital addition to the Arab naval forces.

Navy Officer Lieut. Kamal Rashed Idris, a Kuwaiti received a service medal of the second degree and prizes granted by the Egyptian Defence Minister and the Commander of Egyptian troops Sharif Sadeq.

Kuwaitis in the 41st batch included Hazza Mulaq Hadeeb, Mohammed Khalil Mohammed Al Askar, Imad Saleh Al Dakheel, Ali Awad, Bashar Abdul Hussein

Abdul Ridda, Adel Ibrahim Yousef Al Raqam, Salem Aqqab Mubarak Barakat, Fahd Ali Abdul Raheem Al Kandari and Munzer Ibrahim Salem Othman Al Rashed.

The ceremony was held at the Naval Academy in Abi Qeer and attended by senior commanders of the Egyptian armed forces, a number of Egyptian ministers, Kuwaiti military attaches to Egypt and families of Kuwaiti graduates.

Pictures (above) show the Kuwaiti contingent upon graduation and (below) Lieut. Kamal Rashed Idris receiving his medal from Egyptian Defence Minister General Yousef Sabri Abu Taleb.



45 Jahra hospital nurses resign

A TOTAL of 45 employees of the nursing staff at Al Jahra Hospital tendered their resignations and another 13 employees from the medical services department also resigned, a local daily reported.

The daily added that 32 new employees were recruited as nursing staff and 15 to work in the medical services.

These resignations have been

attributed to the migratory nature of the Asian workforce who prefer to migrate to Europe and the USA, an official source said. Commenting, he said that it is a disaster that the Nursing Institute has been closed down as it was ideally suited to provide Kuwaiti girls and expatriates the opportunities to join the nursing field.

The official called on the Minister of Health, Dr. Abdul Wahab Al Fouzan to redress the issue of shortage of nursing and other medical staff.

The official added that Al Jahra Hospital which is in need of 612 nursing staff has been opened with a total of 483 nurses who are presently employed by the hospital.

2 films, 6 ships on blacklist

KUWAIT, July 25, (Kuna): The Kuwait Office of the Arab Boycott of Israel today blacklisted two films and six vessels for dealing with Israel.

The office's release said that the feature film "My African Adventure" was banned from screening in Kuwait because it is produced by the boycotted American company Cannon Group Inc. with the participation of the Israelis Menahem Golan and Yoram Globus.

The other film "War Zone" was blacklisted for screening anti-Arab material and pro-Israel propaganda.

Three vessels were blacklisted in their new names namely the Liberian ship Negev Oran which changed its name to Monica, the German ship Nautic under its new name of Nautique and new Cypriot nationality and finally the Cypriot vessel Brise II under its new name Island and new Honduras nationality.

Boycott of three other vessels was extended to their new nationalities namely the Finnish ship Ariel under Greek nationality, the Greek ship Kronos under the Bahamas nationality and the Liberian ship Soknatan under its Norwegian nationality.

GCC meeting on impact of changes

MUSCAT, July 25, (Kuna): Three ministers from the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) member states began a meeting in Oman's resort city of Salalah today to consider current international changes and their impacts on the region, reported the Omani News Agency.

The committee set up at the recent GCC summit in Muscat is made up of Oman's State Minister for Foreign Affairs Yousef Ben Alawi, Kuwait's Finance Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Athbi and Bahrain's Information Minister Tariq Bin Abdel Rahman Al Muayyid.

Addressing the opening session Ben Alawi stressed the need to discuss these changes with due concern and in a positive manner.

More Kuwaitis marrying Filipinas

Demands of local women unreasonable

THE number of Kuwaiti youths marrying Filipinas is registering a considerable and steady increase, despite government efforts aimed at encouraging youth to marry Kuwaiti females. In this respect, the government of Kuwait distributes grants to those just married and extends various loan facilities to those who are in need.

A local daily, interviewed a number of Kuwaiti youth who have married Filipinas to obtain an insight into the reasons for preferring them to Kuwaiti women.

A 26-year-old Kuwaiti male, identified only by his initials HH said that he married a Filipina who used to be a maid, but pointed out that he does not feel ashamed to admit that his wife was a domestic servant. He commented that an honest job has no limitations and is not degrading.

He said that he had met his wife in the same neighbourhood where he lived with his family before he married. He said that his wife was compelled to come to Kuwait in order to earn an honest living with a decent wage. Wages in the Philippines, as in many other developing countries of the world, are very low, he said and reiterated the fact that his wife came to Kuwait to earn some extra honest income. In fact, he said, instead of being ashamed of his wife, he is proud of her as she has a Bachelor's degree in English.

He disclosed that once he had ensured that his feelings for her were genuine, he decided to marry her and promptly proposed. He added that he had surmounted all social differences (and these were considerable) even though she is two years older than me, he said.

He said that he has switched from wearing dishdashas to shirts and trousers — not so much due to a change in fashion, but because with Western clothes, people in Kuwait do not stare at him and his wife, he added. He commented that on several occasions when he used to wear the dishdasha and went shopping with his wife, people mistook his wife for his maid. However, I am sure, given adequate time, this concept of Filipinas being maids will change, he said.

Just like he had switched from the dishdasha to Western clothes, he said that his wife had embraced Islam before marriage. She is now attending Arabic classes and is also learning to cook Arabic food. In addition, he said that she helps him in running the affairs of his cloth shop.

On the issue of parental consent, he said that both his parents were and are still totally opposed to reconciling themselves to the fact that their son has married a Filipina — even though the marriage is a very happy one. He



Hisham Abu Ajeel and his wife Fatima.

said that until this day, his father refused to visit him at his home.

One of the reasons for this adamant stand taken by his father HH said is that his older brother is also married to a Filipina who worked as a housemaid. This in itself was not acceptable to his father, he added, but what compounds the issue is that his brother divorced his Kuwaiti wife to marry his present wife.

He confided to the paper, that he has every hope, along with his brother that when his father sees that these have been happy marriages, he will reconcile himself to the fact and visit them both.

He said that his wife is in her fourth month of pregnancy and he just cannot wait to see his first-born.

In a second interview, Khaled M. 29-year-old Kuwait said that he has been married for the past three and a half years to his Filipina housemaid. He said that most Kuwaiti youth are compelled to marry Filipino girls or other foreigners due to the unreasonable demands of Kuwaiti women before marriage. To add to this, he said, after marriage, Kuwaiti women indulge in expensive tastes in relation to clothes, travel, and other forms of luxury.

He said that Kuwaiti women do not appreciate the need for standing by their man in the initial formative stages of his career and their excessive demands causes the marriage to

strain, and ultimately leads to divorce.

He said that in his own situation, he had given considerable thought to marrying his housemaid, but came to realise that his ex-wife was treating the maid inhumanly and he divorced her and married the maid. He said that he does not regret his decision one bit, except he said, he should have made the decision much earlier.

He said that all his friends who have married Filipinas are of the consensus opinion that Filipina wives sincerely care about their husbands' welfare much more than Arab women

Eve-teasers go free on bail

THE Criminal Court refrained from passing sentence against the three defendants on a charge of teasing a girl, a local daily reported.

However, the defence argued that the girl was provocatively dressed and incited the defendants to give vent to their feelings.

The court was told that the girl was walking up the stairs of a building when the defendants molested her.

However, the court took into consideration that the defendants were of a young age and called on them to pay a bail amount of KD200 each

From the courts

Janitor gets 5 years for rape

THE Criminal Court sentenced a building janitor to five years in jail to be followed by deportation for raping a minor boy, a local daily reported.

The court was told that the janitor called on the boy to help him fix the antenna on the roof of the building. However, once on the terrace, he made sexual advances which were repulsed by the boy. Following, the court was told that the accused gave the boy KD5 and then sexually assaulted him.

The youth informed his parents who called in the police and after investigations, the accused confessed to the crime.

Four years for drug trader: The Criminal Court sentenced a defendant to four years rigorous imprisonment with a fine of KD600 for trading in narcotics.

The court was told that the defendant had been to the UK to pursue his higher studies where he became an addict and as he could not continue his studies returned without getting a degree. In Kuwait, he continued to seek release through drugs and ultimately turned into a trader in narcotics. The CID who were informed of his activities arranged for a police decoy to purchase KD50 worth of drugs.

However, at the time of the transaction, the defendant felt the presence of the police and after throwing down the contraband tried to flee. However, he was soon arrested and a search of his apartment revealed a quantity of drugs.

Investigations revealed that he had obtained the drugs from a friend who was arrested a week previously.

Maid, paramour get 3 months: The Criminal Court sentenced a maid and her paramour to three months in jail to be followed by deportation for indulging in illicit sex.

The court was told that the housemaid telephoned her lover who worked as a driver at a neighbouring flat and told him to come over as her employers were on vacation.

However, the employer returned earlier than usual and found the driver in the apartment. He promptly informed the police who arrested both the accused.

Indian university exams

DELHI University examinations (correspondence) will be held at the Indian embassy premises wed July 30, 1990 in the mornings at (0630) hours.

Concerned candidates are advised to contact the Indian embassy from (0900) to (1300) hours on Saturday, the 28th July, 1990 for further details.

Khan — a minister for all affairs

THIRTY-NINE-YEAR-OLD Arif Mohammad Khan belongs to a select group of people who believe in revamping the colourful political spectrum of Indian politics. It is known as "value based" politics; projecting a "clean image" of people in power who believe in principles. People like Khan overturned the Congress boat in an upbeat mood prevailing during the 1989 elections.

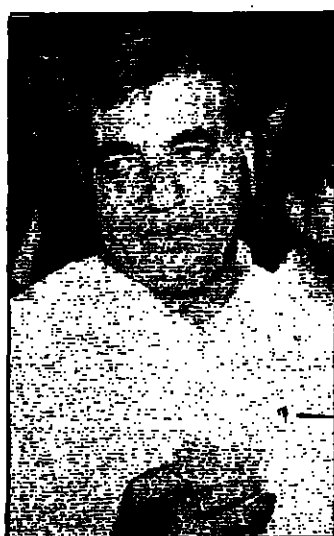
"Commitment, public commitment is what we believe in; what our prime minister believes in and we shall not make any compromises on any basic issues," asserts Khan with a twinkle in his eyes. Commitment is also what he strongly favours.

He believes in the "strength of conviction." It was this belief that led to another controversial decision to ground the A320s fleet after the tragic crash in Bangalore is now being viewed as a political gaffe. The government has reneged on its earlier stand and is re-inducting the A320s in a phased manner from mid-July. Indian Airlines (IA) lost about Rs50 crore due to the grounding.

Justifying his decision, Khan says: "Even if the planes were safe, I had to dispel doubts in the public mind and decided to get the verdict of an expert independent body over which we had no control. We had to save credibility and ensure safe operations."

IA is now improving its infrastructure, pilot training and maintenance facilities. Khan's ministry has also given the green signal to private operators to fly air taxi services to "inject an element of competition."

"If there is a monopoly, passenger interests tend to be neglected. Some competition, we hope, will improve IA services," he said.



Khan shares power with "a core group" in the V.P. Singh cabinet and has been hailed as a minister for all affairs because, once, it is said, he stood in for six ministers during their absence abroad. He holds the post of minister of energy and civil aviation and is said to be overworked and can be seen with "all kinds of hangers-on."

Career
Commerce and Tourism Minister Arun Nehru and Khan share a "right-of-centre" viewpoint and support each other on key economic and political matters. The story goes that if a common man from Nehru's constituency visits him, he is redirected to Khan's address.

Khan, in a political career spanning 13 years, has come to acquire the reputation of being "the man of the people." He comes across as a polite, courteous man, and sincere to a fault, even while apologising for something that is certainly not his doing. Khan is like a social-

Indian Minister of Energy and Civil Aviation Arif Mohammad Khan was recently in Kuwait as Prime Minister V.P. Singh's special envoy to deliver a message to HH the Amir. Arab Times took this opportunity to find out more about the youngest union cabinet member who rocked, not one, but two governments in a political career spanning 13 years. He turns 40 in November this year.

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

animal who merges with the masses when surrounded by them. He is also a man who never shies from taking a bold stand, whatever the consequences.

In 1986, when Khan was the minister of state for power, he resigned in protest of the controversial Shah Bano (Muslim) women's bill saying the ruling Congress was "selling out to fundamentalists and communalists" when the government withdrew it saying it should not interfere with Muslim personal laws. Khan's claim favoured maintenance for divorcees. Shunned by religious leaders and Congress loyalists, Khan gained the respect of the man on the street. It was a lone voice of dissent.

Achievements

In recent weeks, he once again rocked a government when along with Arun Nehru, he resigned over the reinstatement of vice-premier Devi Lal's son, Om Prakash Chautala as chief minister of Haryana. At a time when politicians cling to power, Khan seems to throw it away at the drop of a hat. Why?

At 26, he became the youngest minister in the UP state assembly.

Now, at 39, he is the youngest union cabinet member.

"I have achieved everything at a very young age. Some people spend time struggling, and somewhere along the way a feeling develops that one wants to cling to power. If I display the same (traits) and cling to power, I can't justify it," he explains.

Khan believes the attitude of today's generation should be different. He certainly is.

In today's India, people talk in terms of affiliations, religious, political or ideological. Such siding has become an essential part, even in the media. Is he affiliated to the religious minorities? He pauses but for a moment before rattling off an explanation.

"If you talk in terms of religious affiliation, yes, Muslims are a minority. But the idea of identifying religious minorities is alien in our secular state. "Religious affiliation does not determine political attitudes when we talk of the political system. The idea of converting political constituencies (into religious units) is alien to our system. If this were so, I would have no chance of getting elected

from UP." He was elected twice from Bahraich constituency in UP. Khan says his secular idealism won.

He tackles such tricky issues like religious dissent with political finesse, stressing secularism is the platform for all democratic norms in his country. He believes in the principles of democracy. And in a healthy democracy, he stresses, there must be "voices of dissent." And the crux is to learn "agreeing to disagree."

He defends his recent resignation, and that of the 12 other ministers, over the Chautala affair, one of the worst crises faced by the minority National Front government, insisting it was not a crisis.

"It was no crisis. The ministers who resigned did not protest (Chautala's reinstatement) but we could not defend the developments and dissociated ourselves. And a difference of opinion is not unusual, it is a part of the democratic process."

In some ways, he emphasises the concept of unity in diversity. Media reports claim the Chautala issue tarnished the "clean" image of the ruling National Front.

"Certainly not. The fact that the matter was settled in a matter of two and a half days proves there was no crisis and we can settle issues."

Can the minority government survive another such crisis? "I am not an astrologer," he quips. And, then, more seriously he states: "The manifesto on which we fought the election, the basic premises... about which we have a public commitment, we shall not make any compromises." His party won on the premise of "value-based politics." "There can't be a set formula;

values differ from individual to individual; values are not objective (but) subjective," you hear an articulate politician talking.

Actions
"It's only when you mention his personal life, he has trouble with words; the pauses lengthen, he shrugs his shoulders, rolls his eyes and looks into nothingness. He'd rather not talk about himself."

"One should not take the help of words to determine what one believes in; one should not go merely by words. But one must believe in differing viewpoints (and) uphold them. Then, actions become important..." he states.

And his actions speak of courage in diversity. They reveal principles tinged with controversy. Some say he is an opportunist, but all agree he is a survivor. In some ways, he is an idealist who visualises an India where there is no poverty, unemployment or strife — a place where "Indians can feel proud of being Indian." Like most pragmatists, he is yet to work out the formula for doing away with the ills that plague his society.

"I don't know how this can happen; but this can happen and will happen," he says with conviction as the father of two sons, and a happily married man, decides to call it a day... for the moment.

The days when he was a law student, the times when he promoted adult literacy and campaigned against dowry are far behind him. Today, he deals confidently with more pressing matters — familiar, difficult national issues like battling with plans to generate sufficient power to feed the nation and coping with an annual 12 per cent increase in air passenger traffic.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

FAME always brings loneliness. Success is as ice-cold as the North Pole — Vicki Baum, Austrian-born writer (1888-1960).

S. Africa Reds rally

Communists make a return

JOHANNESBURG. (Reuters): South Africa's secretive Communist Party returns to the political stage after 40 years behind the scenes with a mass rally and a recruitment drive among blacks impatient to take a share of white-owned wealth.

The rally on Sunday at Soweto's Soccer City stadium will test the popularity of a shadowy movement long seen by minority whites as a Soviet agent controlling Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), the main black anti-apartheid group.

"We've been rubbished, attacked, vilified and slandered without any right to reply for 40 years," says general secretary Joe Slovo, 64, a Johannesburg lawyer who returned to South Africa in April after 27 years leading the party in exile.

"Our launch is our first shot at recreating the party as a legal organisation, which it was until it was banned in 1950," he said on a radio phone-in programme.

"Now that we have emerged from the cellars in which we have been forced to work, we're going to try to build a mass party, an open party, where every single communist will be known as a communist in whatever organisation he or she is working."

At Soccer City, which holds 70,000 people, party officials will hand out membership application forms to the crowd, drawing on socialist sympathies among voteless blacks who accuse white-owned companies of profiteering from apartheid and cheap black labour.



Slovo... leader

Attracted

"Whether or not blacks are attracted to communism, that is the question," said senior party official Raymond Mhlaba.

"We are going to see if the SACP is being supported."

The party was one of a number of anti-apartheid groups legalised by President F. W. de Klerk in February as part of sweeping reforms aimed at giving blacks a share of power.

But unlike its main allies in the ANC, the SACP kept a low profile for fear of harassment by police steeped in decades of state-inspired anti-communist propaganda.

Memories are vivid of internal party leader Braam Fischer, who died in 1975, nine years into a jail term, and Slovo's wife Ruth First, killed by a parcel bomb in Mozambique in 1982.

Party officials also cite the retention on the statute book of Section 55 of the 1982 Internal Security Act, which makes it an offence punishable by 10 years' imprisonment to advocate, advise, defend or encourage the objectives of communism.

The section makes the rally technically illegal, but magistrates and traffic police have granted permission in line with a new official tolerance for dissent.

The party has no access to the Western funding available to its ANC ally. It is almost broke and will rely on membership fees, Slovo says. Since being legalised it has had one foreign donation \$5,000 from the Austrian Communist Party.

But the SACP's influence belies its size and poverty. Most estimates put its membership at only a few hundred, but it has members in the upper echelons of the growing black trade union movement and the ANC.

Slovo, a one-time chief of staff of ANC's military wing, still has a top post with the ANC. In public appearances since April he has attracted as much applause and cheering from black crowds as have most black leaders.

Reviled

A white South African, he has been reviled as public enemy number one and is often referred to by whites as a Soviet agent.

The ANC's current military leader, Chris Hani, is a senior member of the SACP. Other ANC officials are expected to reveal their membership at the rally.

Some political analysts see important shifts in the SACP's relationship with the ANC following Mandela's successful tour of Europe and North America this year, which switched the source of ANC financial support from the Soviet Union and its allies to the West.

"The CP members in the ANC and the unions give it a very considerable influence. I doubt whether that's going to change," David Welsh, professor of politics at Cape Town University, said in an interview.

"But most ANC funding now comes from Scandinavian and North American sources. There's no question in the past that the ANC policy tended to follow the Soviets and my guess is that there will be a sea of change," Welsh said.

"The CP is well aware of this and is manoeuvring to show its own independence as a communist party and not toe the line from Moscow. They're moving towards a rather fuzzy social democratic line."

The party in 1928 became the first South African political group to advocate one-person, one vote but for decades propagated dogmatic Marxist ideology handed down by its main source of diplomatic backing, the Soviet Union.

The party changed tack when communist governments fell in Eastern Europe last year. It began advocating multi-party democracy and a mixed economy.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1605 — French Protestants hold assembly at Chatelherault in defiance of King Henry IV.
- 1757 — French under D'Estrees defeat British under Cumberland at Hastenback in Eastern Germany.
- 1821 — Turkey and Russia sever relations after Turkey refuses to protect Christian subjects.
- 1891 — France annexes South Sea island of Tahiti.
- 1926 — Philippines legislature calls for plebiscite on independence, but it is vetoed by US governor-general.
- 1942 — British Air Force stages heavy raid on Hamburg in Germany in World War II.
- 1945 — Britain, United States and China demand Japan's unconditional surrender as terms for peace in World War II.
- 1952 — Egypt's King Farouk abdicates in favour of infant son, Fuad.
- 1953 — Fidel Castro begins revolt in Cuba, attacking army barracks at Santiago.
- 1956 — Egypt's president Gamal Abdel Nasser nationalises Suez Canal and Britain, France and United States announce financial retaliations.
- 1963 — Earthquake shakes Skopje, Yugoslavia, taking more than 1,000 lives.
- 1974 — Constantine Karamanlis, new Greek premier, forms civilian cabinet after seven years of military rule in Greece.
- 1984 — Kuwait's defence minister says Amir of Kuwait has ordered air force to shoot on sight any intruder warplanes that violate nation's air space.
- 1988 — Cuba's President Fidel Castro addresses rally to mark 35th anniversary of start of his revolutionary fight for power.
- 1989 — Poland's president rules out turning over government to Solidarity.

قوة العمل

Two dead, one paralysed and two wounded

Uprising takes toll on Gaza family

SHABURA REFUGEE CAMP, Occupied Gaza Strip. (AP): Subhi Abu Dahi proudly displays his trophies: The scars of four gunshot wounds from encounters with Israeli soldiers in nearly 32 months of the Palestinian uprising.

A 7-year-old sister, Lulu, sits in a wheelchair, eyes dull and head tilted against a brace. She has been paralyzed, unable to speak, since a soldier fired a rubber-coated steel ball 18 months ago that struck her in the head.

Their father and an older brother were killed by Israeli forces over the years and a 14-year-old brother was shot in both legs.

Subhi is tall and muscular with big, broad hands, and looks like a high school basketball player, but life has left him little time for sports.

In the dusty, garbage-strewn streets of Shabura, young men his age are more likely to throw stones at Israeli soldiers than shoot balls through hoops. The soldiers often respond with bullets, and Subhi has his scars to show.

The toll on his family has been dreadful even by the standards of Shabura, where nearly every home has a tale of suffering from a generation of Israeli occupation.

About 25,000 Palestinian refugees are crowded into the small concrete-block houses. Residents say 37 people in Shabura have died in clashes with the Israeli Army since the uprising began in December 1987.

Shabura is part of the town of Rafah, on the Egyptian border. Palestinian flags, outlawed by Israel, fly throughout the camp and slogans written on walls declare hatred and anger for the Israeli presence in the Gaza Strip and West

Bank, which Israel captured from Egypt and Jordan in 1967.

"Stopping the intifada is like killing the Palestinian people," reads one slogan, using the Arabic word for the uprising.

An extended Abu Dahi family of 29 people lives in eight small rooms under a corrugated tin roof. Similar spread-out shacks are close by, separated by sandy paths used for dumping garbage and dishwater.

Cousins and brothers in the Abu Dahi household told the family's story in the heat of a July afternoon. They cursed the soldiers, accusing them of firing needlessly, and said the family would continue fighting Israeli occupation.

"If things don't change, the uprising will go on, with rocks, firebombs and killing collaborators," Subhi said. "Perhaps there will be weapons. Some people have guns. We have seen collaborators killed with shots."

His mother, Kamiliya, said of the Israelis: "When they leave, the uprising will end. If they stay forever, we fight forever."

Kamiliya is 40 and has borne nine children. She said her first husband, Subhi's father, was killed as a commando leader in 1970. Her oldest son, Osama, was shot to death when he attacked an Israeli border guard with a knife in October 1988.

The paralyzed child, Lulu, is from her second marriage. In Muslim fashion, Kamiliya married the brother of her slain husband.

Lulu was shot when she ran outside during a riot in February last year, Kamiliya said. At the time, the army said Lulu was wounded in a stone-throwing riot. Military officials have accused Palestinians of putting youngsters in the front of protests because

wounded children are bad publicity for Israel.

Kamiliya said Lulu "saw a boy she knew being arrested. She grabbed at him, trying to tug him away from the soldiers. One soldier opened fire."

She looked at the girl's frail, twisted body and said: "We sacrificed too much."

Her glance moved to Subhi, the oldest surviving son, scarred by bullets on the face, one arm and both ankles.

"People here call him the suspended 'shaheed'," she said. Shaheed, Arabic for martyr, describes the Palestinian dead of the uprising.

"That's why I am afraid," she said. "That's why he got married so young. Now he has to support his family. He shouldn't do anything illegal."

Subhi's wife, Hanan, also 19, blushed when Subhi was asked if he was ready to give up revolution for a job and children.

"I am studying the situation," he said. "I will manage to combine work, everything."

Three days earlier, Subhi was freed after 180 days in Gaza central prison, his third jailing of the uprising. He was convicted of "offering services to an illegal organisation," the mainstream Fatah faction led by PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

According to Subhi, the services were "distributing leaflets, writing graffiti, carrying money."

He has worked as a welder and house painter, but said it would be difficult to find jobs in the economic shambles of Gaza. He is not allowed to work in Israel because of his jail record.

Two men who have jobs in Israel support the Abu Dahi clan. One is a construction

worker, the other a pizza cook. The family also gets UN food aid and, Subhi said, a PLO "stipend" for the members killed or wounded in the uprising.

Subhi's grandfather, Ahmed, complained that, like many Palestinians, his family had become used to living on handouts since fleeing their village of Qubeiba near Ramle when Israel was founded 42 years ago.

"In Qubeiba, there were rich and poor," he said. "Now we are all beggars."

Ahmed, 65, wears the white knit cap of a religious Muslim and is known as Sheikh Ahmed for his role as a mosque prayer leader.

He said the family fled Qubeiba on May 23, 1948, then joined thousands of other Palestinians in moving from place to place for months to escape the Israeli Army. They reached the Gaza Strip in early 1949.

Why did the family leave Qubeiba? "There were clashes all around and we were afraid after Deir Yassin," he said, referring to a Palestinian village where Jewish irregulars massacred more than 200 men, women and children in April 1948.

Israeli historian Benny Morris wrote that Israeli soldiers captured Qubeiba and drove out the remaining inhabitants on May 27, 1948, four days after the Abu Dahis fled. The army demolished most of the houses and Jewish immigrants took over what remained.

"I think my house was destroyed," said Ahmed Abu Dahi.

From a cupboard, a grandson pulled a deed issued to Ahmed's father in 1930, when Britain ruled Palestine. It described the house as made of stone, built in 1910 and having a common wall with another family's home.

SLA acts as Israel buffer force

Tel Aviv pays \$3m monthly for upkeep

MAJADIYEH, Lebanon. (AP): The gulleys and hills of this killing ground echo with gunfire most days as guerrillas attack a Lebanese border zone occupied by Israel and its militia ally, the South Lebanon Army.

At night, parachute flares fired to spot infiltrators cast a ghostly light around the hilltop forts manned by the 3,000-strong SLA, mostly Christians.

"They're human sandbags," says an officer of the United Nations peacekeeping force. "They absorb the raids and take the casualties rather than the Israelis. In return, the Israelis arm them, pay the bills and keep them in power."

The militia, backed by some 1,200 Israeli soldiers and hundreds of security agents, man the so-called "security zone," a strip of Lebanese territory that runs north of the border from the Mediterranean coast in the west to the foothills of Mount Hermon in the east.

Costs

It costs Israel \$3 million a month to support the SLA, but for them it's money well spent. In the last 4-1/2 years, nearly 200 militia fighters have been killed and some 600 wounded defending Israel in South Lebanon, where guerrillas fight among themselves as much as they do the Israelis.

Hundreds of Palestinian guerrillas and Lebanese leftist and Muslim irregulars have been killed or wounded.

No Israeli civilian has been slain in guerrilla raids from South Lebanon since 1985, although the guerrillas still occasionally fire ineffectual rocket salvos into northern Galilee.

Still, more than 30 Israeli soldiers have been killed in the security zone since it was established in mid-1985. That was when the Israelis withdrew after three years of occupying a large chunk of Lebanon, harried all the way by suicide bombers and leftist and Muslim guerrillas.

The zone, 6 to 10 miles (10 kms to 16 kms) deep, joins a finger of territory held by the SLA that runs north to the Christian mountain town of Jezzine, 15 miles (24 kms) above the Israeli border.

"Israel pays the SLA salaries and covers all our expenses," says Gen. Antoine Lahd, the silver-haired retired Lebanese Army officer who commands the SLA. "Israel provides us with all our needs. We protect the zone and Israel's northern borders."

Lahd, a Maronite Catholic, says his objective is "a normal relationship of good neighbourliness with Israel. They're our neighbours. We don't see any point in fighting them."

The Israelis invaded Lebanon in June 1982 "because Palestinians attacked them from Lebanon," he said.

"It's our duty to prevent anyone — the Palestinians, Iraqis and others — from using our land to attack Israel," Lahd said in an interview at his heavily guarded villa in the SLA's headquarters complex in the mountain town of Marjayoun.

"This way we keep our land free and we avoid Israeli reprisal attacks against terrorists on our



A 10-year-old Lebanese boy in the Israeli-self-declared security zone. He uses the mule to smuggle food to land. (Reuters wirephoto)

land."

The Israelis insist they do not want to stay in South Lebanon.

The SLA emerged from a group of Christians armed by the Israelis in 1976 to combat Palestinian commandos. Lahd took over the command of the SLA in 1984 after its leader, a renegade Lebanese Army major named Saad Haddad, died of cancer.

Lahd, 62, was wounded in November 1988 when a woman member of the Lebanese Communist Party, who was his wife's dance instructor, shot him in an assassination attempt.

The Lebanese government considers Lahd's force to be agents of the Israelis who occupy Lebanese territory and show no sign of withdrawing.

"But one day when the Middle East crisis is over and the problem of Lebanon has been settled, we'll be integrated in to the regular Lebanese Armed Forces," Lahd says. Given his co-operation with Israel, that remains to be seen.

The SLA is armed with obsolete Israeli tanks, artillery and other weaponry, much of it captured from the Arabs. Lahd says the militia is divided into two brigades of 1,500 fighters, most of them deployed along the 72-mile (115-km) northern edge of the enclave.

Lahd's spokesman Caesar Saqr, says the zone was

attacked 353 times by infiltrators, roadside bombs, or artillery, mortar and rocket bombardments last year, almost one a day.

"All the infiltration attempts were interceded and dealt with in the security zone," Saqr says.

The SLA fighters have a reputation for poor discipline and brutality. Most Muslims and not a few Christians consider them Israeli mercenaries.

An SLA private is paid \$150 a month, six times the average wage in other parts of Lebanon, and a second lieutenant gets \$240.

Lahd has sought to recruit Shiites to give his army a sectarian mix. But many of those defected.

The Israelis say that better training by Israeli instructors has improved the SLA's discipline and reliability.

The Israelis in the zone are deployed primarily in strategic hilltop fire bases bristling with electronic surveillance equipment.

The Israeli Air Force regularly attacks Palestinian and Lebanese commando bases to avenge major attacks. Israeli troops with tanks and helicopter gunships often strike out of the zone on punitive bases, seizing Muslim suspects.

"The Israelis are not an occupation army," Lahd insists. "You don't see them in the streets or villages of the security zone. They don't interfere with the population."

Art Buchwald

Something is missing from S & L scandal

"THERE'S something missing from the S&L scandal," Tom Jolly told me.

"What's that?"

"There are no names. How can people scoop up \$500 billion and we don't even know who they are?"

"What about Charles Keating? He's a name."

"He's not a household name like the guys in Watergate. At least with Watergate we knew who did it to us. I think that the rule should be if someone walks away with more than \$100 billion, the public ought to be told who he is."

"You can't compare Watergate with the S&L scandals."

"Why not?" Tom asked.

"Because Watergate was a crime of passion. The S&L rip-off was a combination of ignorance and greed."

"That's why there are no S&L names. You don't think that Nixon, Haldeman, Ehrlichman or Colson would steal the savings of widows and orphans, do you?"

Life

"What about the five senators who made life easy for Charlie Keating when the Feds were after him?" he asked.

"They're small potatoes and don't belong in the

same league with the men and women who sank 500 of the biggest S&Ls in the country. Your problem is that you are looking for someone to hate because you and every other American are being stuck with the tab."

"It's true that a good deal of the \$500 billion went to S&L executives for wine, women and lawyers. But you can't demand your pound of flesh just because somebody is driven by avarice and the will to win."

Tom said, "Ingrate didn't involve as much money but at least it had someone you could point a finger at with contempt. Take Ollie North or General Secord or Admiral Poindexter. Americans had a rooting interest in what happened to them. We know less about the S&Ls than Ronald Reagan remembers about Ingrate."

"I'm sure that the administration is working on finding the wrongdoers right now," I assured him.

"Why weren't they working on it before the money was stolen?"

"Because at that time the savings and loans were deregulated. If you watch an industry which is deregulated, it could appear that it was being regulated."

Assurances

"The government had assurances from the

owners of the S&Ls that they would operate strictly within the law."

"Unfortunately, under deregulation what is within the law to one banker is not necessarily within the law to another. What more can the Treasury be expected to do?"

"I want them to round up the usual suspects, march them into the courtroom and, at the end of the trial, sentence them to community service scrubbing the marble floors of the S&Ls they drove into the ground. I'd like to see their faces plastered on the front pages of the newspapers. I also want them to return all the money they gave to their girlfriends before they went bankrupt. Then I think they should go to jail."

"You're asking a lot for the looting of a paltry half a trillion dollars. I have nothing against going public about those who filched the money, but the purpose of prison is to rehabilitate people. If they are sent to the slammer, they won't be any the wiser about S&Ls than they are now," I said.

"So what if Leona Helmsley can go to jail, why can't the S&L guys?"

"We all wish we knew the answer to that question."

Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Syria-Israel

Settlers afraid of Golan talks

OCCUPIED KATZIRIN, Golan Heights. (Reuters): Rumours of possible peace talks with Syria are worrying the 10,000 Jews who have settled on the remote Golan Heights, captured by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war.

"The Golan is our home and no one ever thinks of giving back a home," said Meir Momtitz, deputy mayor of the largest Israeli community on the strategic plateau, a wild region of rolling fields dotted with minefields.

The people of Katzirin and 32 smaller settlements know that if peace talks are held, the Golan will be at their centre.

The Heights tower over the Sea of Galilee in Israel to the west, and to the north look down on plains sweeping towards Damascus just 60 km (35 miles) away.

Western visitors to Damascus earlier this year reported that President Hafez Al Assad was interested in peace talks. Then in the past month Israel called for unconditional negotiations.

If talks are held, there may be more room for bargaining than was once expected. Though Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir refuses to yield an inch of the occupied West Bank or Gaza Strip, he has hinted the Golan could be negotiable.

Israel extended its laws over the 1,000-square km (350-square-mile) Golan in 1981, a move that had been regarded by the rest of the world as annexation.

Israel has encouraged civilians to settle in the Golan, but with little success. Returning the area to Syria would require the removal of only 10,000 Jewish civilians, a mere ninth of the number who have settled in the West Bank since the Palestinian area was captured in the 1967 war.

Most Israelis see the Golan as a distant, underdeveloped region suited only to the adventurous.

There are few industries and agriculture is the main employer. Local officials blame the government for not providing better infrastructure, saying many more settlers would come if there were jobs.

But they add that there has been an increase in settlement in recent months as Soviet Jewish immigrants pour into Israel, putting pressure on housing and jobs.

The settlers share the Golan with just 15,000 Arab Druze Muslims who lived there before the Israeli conquest and have remained aloof from the Jewish state.

The area's value to Israel remains strategic rather than emotional or economic. Military bases, listening posts and bunkers dot the plateau.

"The sanctity of the Golan Heights is not like the sanctity of Judea and Samaria (the West Bank)," said a senior government source. "It's a security problem."

Israelis who believe in trading the Golan for peace with Syria point to a 1974 United Nations-negotiated disengagement agreement that has made the Syrian border Israel's quietest.

Settlers like Momtitz, who originally came as a soldier 10 years ago, fell in love with the Golan and never left, have always feared that one day Israel will withdraw.

QUOTE ME

"My reaction is one of absolute horror that somebody on a mercy mission, fulfilling their own calling as a nun, has been murdered in what is one more indiscriminate attack on the RUC. I am disgusted." — Rogin Eames, Irish Prime while condemning IRA attack in N. Ireland

"The United States doesn't care about the people of Afghanistan. ... it was just looking for its own benefit in Afghanistan." — Abdul Haidi, a spokesman for Hezb-e-Islami rebel group, commenting on US role in Afghanistan

"Although the East German people have had their fill of crises, parliament is persisting with its storm in a teacup. Party political manoeuvring is getting the better of patriotic feeling." — Bauern-Echo newspaper on East German politics.

Three more indicted in French arms racket

MARSEILLE, France, July 25, (UPI): Three more police officers were indicted and jailed yesterday on charges of purchasing arms from a smuggling ring run by colleagues working at the French embassy in Beirut, police said.

The three were identified as Jean-Pierre Schwint, 37, a member of the tough CRS riot control unit in the eastern city of Mulhouse, Daniel Chaudron, 42, a gendarme at Besancon, eastern France.

The three, described by judicial sources as "passionate collectors of weapons," voluntarily presented themselves to a magistrate based in the southern port of Marseille who is investigating the racket, Judge Patrick Arditi. They were charged with

infraction of arms legislation.

The latest charges took a total of 14 the number of people indicted in connection with the burgeoning affair, including nine police officers.

In Paris, Minister for Humanitarian Aid Bernard Kouchner met with Prime Minister Michel Rocard after suggestions in the media that Kouchner's airplane may unwittingly have been used for arms smuggling when he flew to Lebanon as part of French policy in the past.

The socialist Rocard took the unusual step of accompanying Kouchner onto the steps of his hotel Malignon office and shaking his hand for 15 seconds in an

evident gesture of full confidence in the beleaguered minister.

Last night Judge Arditi released on provisional liberty, similar to bail on his own cognizance, Jean-Noel Lebat, a CRS agent based at the French embassy in Washington who was one of two police officers accused of involvement in the trans-Mediterranean traffic in weapons.

The arms shipped by the ring included Soviet-made Kalashnikov AK-47 automatic rifles, American M-16 assault rifles and rocket-propelled-grenade launchers.

Many of the weapons are believed to have found their way to criminal gangs

working in the southern Cote D'Azur area, leading to an upsurge in armed robberies on security vans.

The three ringleaders of the gang have been identified as Sgt. Maj. Jean-Claude Labourette, who was responsible for heading security at the heavily-fortified French embassy in east Beirut, Patrick Jacquin, a police officer who was brought back to France from his post at the French embassy in Washington last week, and Philippe Nino, 25, a former CRS officer who was indicted last year for trafficking in stolen luxury cars. Confessions by Nino led to police cracking the unusual racket, police sources say.

EEC initiative for ME peace soon

Israel rejects PLO role, vows to resist pressure

TUNIS, July 25, (Agencies): Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis pushed the idea of an early European Economic Community (EEC) initiative in the Middle East yesterday but ruled out any economic sanctions against Israel.

De Michelis, who led a team of three EEC foreign ministers on a trip to Israel and Tunis, told a news conference that action was desperately needed to revive the Middle East peace process.

He said, "We are particularly worried by the urgency to do something at once, by the risk connected with the deadlock."

"We are ready to take an initiative. We are here as a fact-finding mission... for studying some form of European initiative in the near future."

The initiative would "support the efforts of all interested and concerned parties in promoting the peace dialogue and the peace process," he added.

Israel meanwhile, sharply rejected a EEC call to include the Palestine Liberation Organisation in Middle East peace talks and vowed to resist any EEC economic pressure.

"... We should not allow this organisation to make even the tiniest imprint on the peace process," Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told a delegation of three EEC foreign ministers.

The comments, released by Shamir's office, were made during a meeting at the end of a 17-hour visit by the delegation in which differences between the EEC and Israel loomed large.

De Michelis, who called the PLO the only realistic partner for Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, said greater economic links between the EEC and Israel could depend on the emergence of peace.

While Israeli leaders did not publicly refer to the EEC hint of economic pressure, officials privately noted that the Jewish state would not bend.

"It will bring a clash between Israel and the EEC," said a government official. "Israel might suffer in the short-run but it will not bring positive results."

Israel wants greater economic ties to Europe but is already hit by an EEC decision to curtail scientific co-operation over its suppression of the 31-month-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The danger lies in the principal," the Israeli official said. "Israel is not going to recognise the PLO because it will not get an agricultural agreement, or so many millions of dollars."

During their five-hour stop in Tunis, the EEC ministers met the Arab League's own troika, made up of representatives of Oman, Palestine and Qatar, the past, present and future Arab League chairmen.

They then had lunch with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat at the home of PLO ambassador Hakam Balawi.

The head of the Arab delegation, Farouk Kaddoumi of the PLO's political (foreign affairs) department, told the same news conference that time was running out in the Middle East.

"If we don't catch the time, conditions will be aggravated more and more, which might lead to war. We should not be patient more than enough," he added.

Afghan truce accord soon

WASHINGTON, July 25, (Agencies): The United States and the Soviet Union will announce an agreement soon for a ceasefire in Afghanistan's civil war, a US television network said.

Quoting Western diplomatic sources in Moscow, ABC television said the immediate ceasefire would be announced next week by Secretary of State James Baker and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze when they meet in Siberia.

A State Department spokesman refused to comment on the ABC report.

Under the agreement, both superpowers would stop sending arms to the warring sides in Afghanistan, ABC said.

The Soviet Union supports the Afghan government, while the United States has sent arms to rebel forces trying to bring down the government in the 11-year-old civil war.

Within six months, national elections would be held under the aegis of the United Nations and the United States would drop its demand that Afghan President Najibullah resign before the elections, ABC said.

ABC said both the Kabul government and the rebels have agreed to abide by the accord.

Baker is scheduled to leave Wednesday for Asia and the Soviet Union to deal with the long-standing regional conflicts in Cambodia and Afghanistan.

US officials said Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze will discuss a timetable for President Najibullah to step down during their meeting next week in Irkutsk, Soviet Siberia.

On his Asia trip, Baker also will attend a meeting on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in Indonesia, held talks in Singapore and visit other Mongolia.

"The Soviets hinted at a deal they haven't fleshed it out," an administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Tuesday. "The threat of the deal is going to be pursued in Irkutsk by Baker."

Members of congress also have been pushing for a settlement in the 12-year-old civil war. Earlier this month, members of the senate intelligence committee voted to cut aid to the Afghan rebels.

Sen. Frank Murkowski, a member of the committee, said he did not attend the meeting where the vote was taken, but the rationale was that the rebels had achieved their purpose.

A congressional source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he understood the panel reduced funding for the rebels by about \$100 million. Last fall, Congress reportedly appropriated about \$300 million for the rebels.

Sen. David Boren, chairman of the intelligence committee, would not talk about the action on Afghanistan. In the past, however, he has called for a reassessment of aid to the rebels.

Muslim insurgents, whose brutal civil war in Afghanistan has been bankrolled for more than a decade by the United States, expressed anger today over Washington's plan to cut their funds.

"It will be very bad news for the resistance," said Suleiman Shah, spokesman for the US-backed provisional rebel government.

"It will prompt a hostile reaction from the mujahideen (guerrillas)," he added. "Even now many people in the resistance are sceptical of the true dependability of the United States."



Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman Yasser Arafat (3rd from left) poses with three European Community foreign ministers after talks in Tunis on Tuesday. From left are Gerard Collins of Ireland, Jacques Poos of Luxembourg, Arafat, and Gianni de Michelis of Italy. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israel develops unmanned coptor

Soviet official to examine joint jet project

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 25, (AP): Israel is developing a small, unmanned reconnaissance helicopter for its navy and already has carried out successful trial flights, Israeli aircraft industries announced yesterday.

A statement from the government-run IAI said the prototype known as "Helstar" made its maiden flight June 18, hovering about two metres (yards) above the ground for two and a half minutes.

The helicopter weighs approximately 2,450 pounds (1,111 kg) and is being developed to remain airborne for six hours and carry cameras to transmit live-pictures in day or night operations, the statement said.

It said the helicopter will be flown by remote control from a navy ship and feed intelligence information back.

"This helicopter will be able to land on a ship with a 400-ton displacement," said IAI spokesman Phil Herman. "That's so small it's like saying you could almost fit it in a bathtub."

The helicopter will be able to carry a 450-pound (200 kg) payload and 700 pounds (320 kg) of fuel, the statement said.

Israel's navy asked the IAI to develop the helicopter

to supplement Israeli-made reconnaissance drones which are launched from missile boats but cannot be recovered. The drones have been sold to armed forces around the world, including the US navy and marines.

Vladislav Malkevitch, president of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce, arrived in Israel yesterday and said he will look into a joint Soviet-US-Israeli passenger plane project.

"One of the most promising projects that has been in the works for half a year now involves co-operation in the field of aviation... modern airplanes that would carry us in the year 2000, if we are alive by then," Malkevitch said on Israeli radio.

"This would be a triangle — the Soviet Union, Israel and the United States. We would supply the planes, since we have the most competitive ones, Israel will supply navigational and measuring equipment," he said. The United States is to provide the engines, he added.

The daily Jerusalem Post newspaper reported that the project calls for upgrading either the Ilyushin-96 or the Tupolev-144, the Soviet planes used to carry passengers and cargo.

Israel cuts subsidy on basic foods

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 25, (Reuters): The Israeli government slashed subsidies on basic foods yesterday in a search for extra funds to finance the settlement of thousands of Soviet Jewish immigrants.

The cuts on a number of food items, part of a \$200 million reduction in the spending plans contained in the last budget, raised bread prices 30 per cent and the cost of chicken by six per cent.

The changes, which will save the government \$40 million a year, angered representatives of the hundreds of Israelis who have set up tent communities around the country to protest rising rents.

"They took away our houses, now they are taking away our food," a homeless person in Tel Aviv complained to one newspaper.

Homeless in the northern city of Haifa, a centre of Soviet Jewish settlement, declared a hunger strike in protest against the price rises.

The Israeli central bank, in an unusually strong criticism of a government decision, said the cut in subsidies would fuel inflation.

"The subsidies cut is another patch on the budget, and is contrary to the government's promise not to increase prices by more than 10 per cent in 1990," the Bank of Israel said.

Row over VOA transmitter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 25, (UPI): An Israeli planning board has approved the construction of a controversial \$300 million Voice of America relay station, but opponents of the project vowed they would take their case to the High Court.

The 19-40-6 decision yesterday by the national council for building and planning overturned a previous decision to wait for the results of a study on the proposed station's possible effect on migratory birds. The decision must be approved by the Israeli cabinet before implementation.

The proposed VOA station would be located in the eastern section of the Negev desert, more than 80 miles (128 km) northeast of the Israeli resort town of Eilat and about 20 miles (32 km) south of the Dead Sea. Four years ago, Israel and the United States signed an agreement to build the station, which will relay shortwave broadcasts of the VOA and radio Free Europe-Radio Liberty in more than 30 languages.

Yoav Saguy, board of governors chairman of Israel's

Society for the Protection of Nature, said he would ask Israel's High Court of justice to overturn Tuesday's ruling. "We are convinced that the law and the spirit of the law were not observed in the latest moves," Saguy told the Jerusalem Post. "It was a hasty and pressured decision. People voted like robots."

In the United States, the chairman of the Board for International Broadcasting, the agency overseeing the project — said he was pleased by the Israeli decision. Malcolm Forbes Jr. said the station would operate with the most stringent safety and environmental safeguards of any, shortwave station in the world.

"When completed, the station will be a powerful voice for democracy, a spur to economic development in the Negev and the milestone in US-Israeli relations," Forbes said in a statement.

"We intend that the relay station will be a 'good neighbour' to the nearby agricultural communities.

Iran asks World Court for damages, compensation against US in Airbus wiring

THE HAGUE, Netherlands, July 25, (AP): Iran asked the World Court yesterday for punitive damages and compensation from the US government for the 1988 downing of an Iranian commercial jetliner by a US Navy missile.

All 290 passengers and crew aboard the jetliner perished in the attack, which the US said was a mistake. The navy ship that fired the missile had been patrolling the Gulf during the Iran-Iraq war. The boat's commanders said they had thought the approaching jetliner, visible on radar screens, was a warplane.

In its first written arguments, Iran also

asked the court to order the United States to refrain from violations of international law, and rebuked the US government for its continued naval presence in the Gulf.

In its 300-page brief, accompanied by three volumes of exhibits, Iran sought compensation for families of the victims of the Airbus downing, as well as for the Iranian government and the airline, Iran Air.

It also sought punitive damages for what it called "the criminal nature of the act."

The brief, termed a memorial in World

Court parlance, did not appear to specify any monetary figures.

Iran demanded a "reparations declaration," but did not specify in the memorial's introduction what that declaration would involve.

Elements of the introduction were obtained by the Associated Press.

The Airbus had been on a flight from Bandar Abbas to Dubai when it was downed on July 3, 1988, by a missile fired from the USS Vincennes.

Later investigations disclosed that the airliner was in a normal climbing pattern when it was downed.

Iran filed the case in May 1989, and the administration of US President George Bush said it would take part in the proceedings. The US government has until March 4 to file its corresponding memorial.

The court, the judicial arm of the United Nations, has no enforcement powers and depends on the voluntary adherence of states coming before it.

The purpose of Iran's memorial is twofold — to prove that the court, formally known as the International Court of Justice, has jurisdiction over the case and to state the facts of its claim.

The memorial charged that the United States had refused to accept responsibility for the Airbus downing and continues to provoke Iran by the presence of its naval fleet in the Gulf.

The United States has begun to pay compensation to the families of non-Iranian victims, but has refused to meet the compensation conditions set by Iran for Iranian victims.

The Iranian memorial also seeks the reversal of a November 1988 refusal by the council of the International Civil Aviation Organisation to issue a condemnation of the United States.

Rivalries delay talks on the hostages release

BRUSSELS, July 25, (AP): Rivalries within Abu Nida's Fatah-Revolutionary Council have delayed talks on the release of four Belgian hostages held by the group in the Middle East, Foreign Minister Mark Eyskens said today.

But Eyskens urged the captors to free the Belgians as soon as possible, making it clear a convicted Palestinian will remain in a Belgian jail as long as the release of the four is not assured.

Noting that the hostage takers do not always speak with one voice, he said progress towards the release remains uncertain.

"We know of derailments" within the group, Eyskens told a news conference.

One longstanding demand of the Fatah-RC has been the release of Palestinian Sa'ed Nasser, who is serving a life sentence for a grenade attack on Jewish youths in Antwerp, which killed one person and injured 20 others.

He becomes eligible for parole on Friday, ten years after the attack.

Sources said prison authorities have no objection to his release. But the government has said that if Nasser is eligible for parole, he will not be freed as long as the four Belgians are not released.

The four Belgians were part of a group that disappeared in 1985 during a Mediterranean cruise on their yacht Silco. In 1987, the Fatah-RC announced they caught the group off the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and accused them of collaborating with Israel.

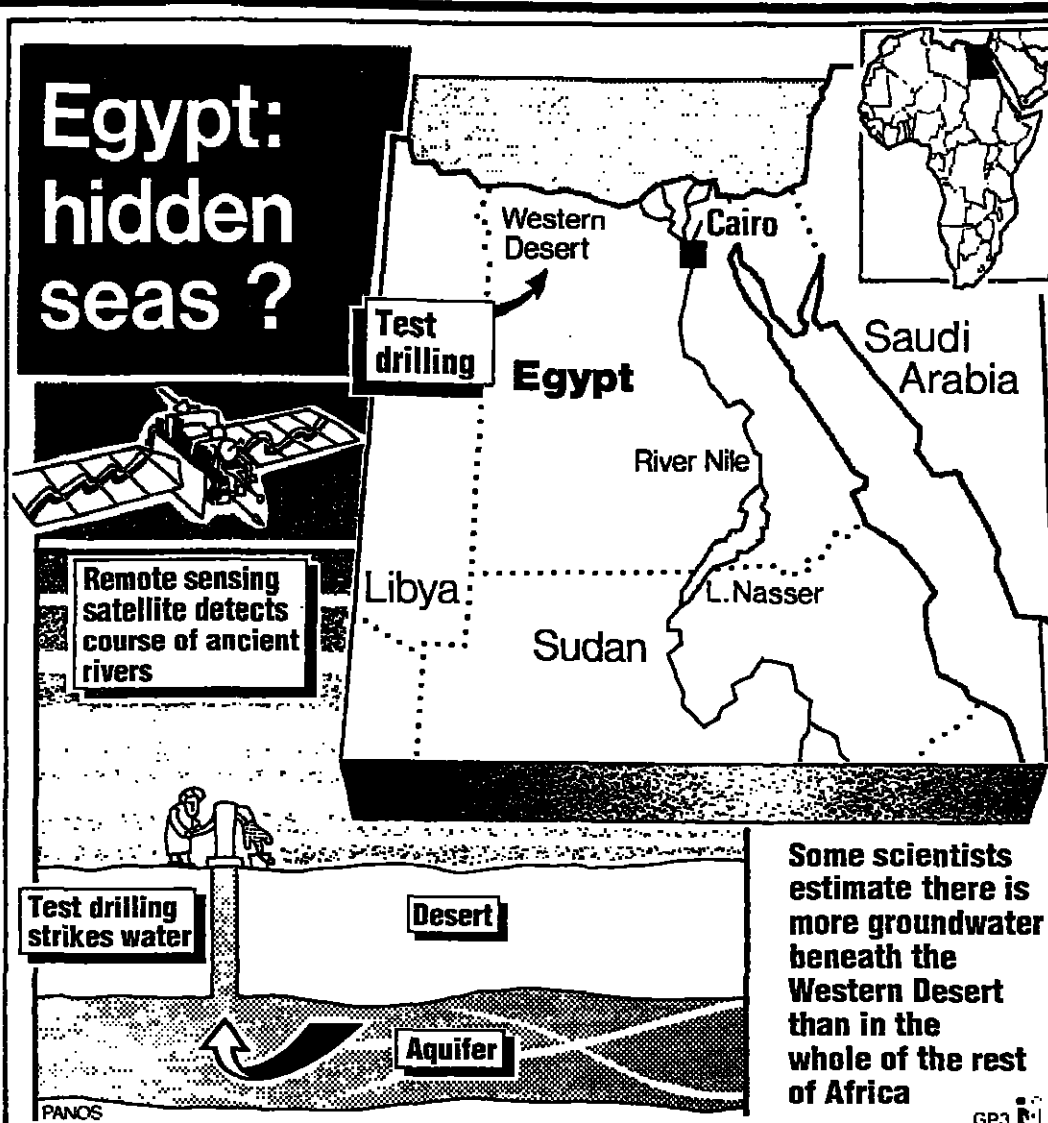
Five, including a Frenchwoman, have already been released. Still held are Emmanuel Houtekens, 44, Godolieve Kets, 50, his son Laurent, 20, and daughter Valerie, 18.

Yemen minister dies

SANAA, July 25, (Reuters): Yemen's Minister of Housing and Urban Planning Abdul-Qawi Muthena Hadi has died of a brain hemorrhage, the official gazette said today. He was 38.

The minister died in West Germany yesterday while undergoing treatment, the gazette said.

Hadi held the same post in former South Yemen before it merged with the North on May 22.



Satellite images lead to spectacular discovery

Water under sea of sand

CAIRO, July 25: Satellite images have led to a spectacular discovery of water beneath Egypt's western desert. There is speculation that it may contain more ground water than was thought to exist for the whole of Africa.

A test drilling, says Dr Farouk Al Baz, indicated that there is enough water "for agriculture for 200,000 acres (80,000 hectares) for 200 years from that one well."

The discovery is of enormous significance for a predominantly desert country dependent on the Nile, 86 per cent of whose waters come from drought-prone Ethiopia.

Instruments aboard the US space shuttle Columbia first revealed the rocky beds of ancient river courses beneath the desert sand.

"There must have been a great deal of water to form valleys as wide as the Nile valley, 20 kms (12 miles) across," Dr Al Baz speculated after examining the images.

"If there were rivers as large as the Nile, then there was much rain and a great deal of surface water. Some of that water would have evaporated; some would have seeped through the deeply fractured rock beneath and stored in aquifers."

To pursue his theory that the water in those aquifers is still there, Dr Al Baz, Egyptian director of Boston University's Centre for Remote Sensing, in co-operation with the Egyptian government, started test drilling near the confluence of several buried valleys in the western desert.

He believes the find indicates the desert's vast potential as a source of water. He cautions, however, that this particular reserve is fossil water, and that because its ability to recharge itself is unknown it should be treated as a non-renewable resource and used sparingly.

Other scientists are also convinced there is much water to be found beneath Egypt's sea of sand.

Dr Kamal Hefny, director of the Institute of Ground Water Research, has just produced a map, based on satellite images, which reveals eight distinct aquifers.

Egypt uses three billion cubic metres of ground water a year. Dr Hefny estimates the figure will increase to eight billion cubic metres, and much more when all regions are fully explored.

The belief that the waters of the Nile were a limitless resource was undermined after the decade of drought which devastated Sudan and Ethiopia began to affect water levels behind Egypt's giant Aswan Dam.

With civil wars also raging in the two Nile-basin partners, Egypt became acutely aware of its vulnerability to events at the distant sources of the river.

In the urgent search for alternative supplies, major ground water discoveries were made in Egypt before the advent of satellite imaging.

But the new technology can show with more precision where to look for water and cut the cost of exploration by up to 90 per cent, says Dr Al Baz. Drilling for water is cheaper and faster than building a dam or piping river water long distances.

Though the desert is a hostile environment to conventional scientific and geological analysis, the region's lack of vegetation and cloud cover makes it ideal for effective remote sensing.

The use of ground water from the western desert has a long lineage: evidence points to the existence of an ancient irrigation system fed by deep wells. Egyptian and Dutch experts believe that nearly one million acres (400,000 hectares) of land were once made fertile thanks to water from the wells.

About 2,500 years later, scientists hope to repeat the ancient feat and find renewable sources of ground water to nourish sustainable development in the desert.

Lebanon called for Egypt's support to stop Israel from seizing Lebanese waters from the south.

Arab diplomatic sources told Kuwait News Agency that government of Premier Salim Al Hoss urged the Egyptian ambassador to Beirut Hassan Shash to deliver this request to his government immediately.

The sources said that Israel seizes between 250 million to 350 million cubic metres of Lebanese water in the south annually.



Kaufman in Syria

British shadow Foreign Secretary Gerald Kaufman, seeking information about British hostages in Lebanon, met Syrian Vice-President Abdel Halim Khaddam yesterday.

"We had very serious and constructive discussions on the hostage situation," Kaufman said. "The vice-president was very understanding and very sympathetic... it was a very valuable meeting."

Kaufman, an official of the opposition Labour Party, met Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara on Monday.

There are three Britons among 15 Western hostages held in Lebanon, mostly by pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim groups. (Reuters wirephoto)

EVENTS

VIDEO CORNER

Trapped hostages

By Shaun Seekins

DIE HARD 2 brings back Bruce Willis as terrorist fighter John McClane, but this time he switches from skyscrapers to Dulles International Airport at Washington. He has gone there to meet his wife and his day starts out badly when he has his car towed away from under his nose. Being Christmas, the airport is packed to overflowing, and thanks to another airport being closed due to frozen conditions, it looks as though the air traffic controllers are going to be stretched to capacity when all of a sudden disaster strikes. McClane sees something suspicious and follows a man into a restricted area only to be shot at when he challenges them. In the ensuing gunfight he kills one of the terrorists and when he sends the fingerprints through to the LAPD, he finds that the man was supposedly killed in action in Central America two years previously. He is having great difficulty convincing a sceptical airport policeman that this has any great significance when the airport runway lights go out. The control tower then receives a call from the terrorist chief telling them that if they don't follow orders many lives will be lost. Apparently, a Manuel Noriega-like drug runner is about to be delivered to the United States by military transport and his mercenaries have decided to hold the airport to ransom to force the authorities to hand him over. The tension builds when, thanks to an intricate system of remote controls, the terrorists shut down the communications systems with all the aircraft that are in the holding pattern. McClane and an engineer set off to try to restore contact when they are ambushed and several policemen that accompanied them are killed. The leader of the terrorists then decides to teach them all a lesson in a very explicit manner. All this time McClane's ex-wife is circling overhead in the same plane as the irresponsible TV reporter portrayed by William Atherton as in the original *Die Hard*. They still haven't got over their mutual dislike and when Atherton finds out that the airport is being held to ransom his reporting plays into the terrorists' hands by creating panic. The film is directed by Renny Harlin, and although action fans certainly don't have anything to complain about, the suspense of the first *Die Hard* seems to be missing. All we seem to have here is an up-to-date airport disaster epic — nothing wrong in that and the box-office takings prove it.

Mel Gibson and Goldie Hawn in *Birds on a Wire*.

the garage where he works and seems to recognise him. He phones up his contact with the Feds, only to find out that the contact is no longer there, when he gives his current location and name it isn't long before he receives a visit. Through his contacts, Carradine has managed to find out Jarmin's current address. Luckily for him, Hawn is across the road keeping an eye on him and thanks to her quick reactions manages to save him.

From then on the film is just one mad chase with Jarmin having to relive the different government-supplied identities he has used during his wanderings. This comic idea, however, is submerged under a barrage of bullets, crashing cars, motorbikes, trains and even an aircraft. Anyhow, laughs and action galore should help this film along.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Fintas/Farwaniya; Video Naut; Sathiya; Video Club, Salmiya.

Now the bad guy is out of prison and looking for revenge, like he wants Jarmin dead. Jarmin becomes alarmed when an ex-girlfriend buys some petrol at

Mei Gibson and Goldie Hawn star in the action-comedy *Birds on a Wire*. Gibson plays Rick Jarmin, a nice enough guy who has been moved around the United States for the last fifteen years in the FBI's Witness Relocation Programme. He had gone to Mexico on an innocent drug run (for personal use only), when he was caught by the Feds and forced to rat on a Drug Enforcement agent-turned-dealer (David Carradine).

Bruce Willis stars as New York City detective John McClane who is the only hope for a small group of hostages in *Die Hard 2*.

Ol' Earl and his pearl...

By Jack E. Wilkinson

Blaze — 'Ol' Earl: He called himself, exhorting his audience to "vote for Earl" and they usually did. On occasion he would add, "I'm not crazy," though sometimes, as shown in this frisky comedy about Huey Long's little brother, it was hard to tell. Paul Newman exuberantly portrays former Louisiana Gov. Earl Long as an eccentric, off-the-wall old time pool with an eye for the ladies. It was his relationship, with one in particular, the notorious New Orleans stripper Blaze Starr, that just about ended his colourful career. Told to choose between Blaze and politics, he typically chooses both. Newcomer Lolita Davidovich does quite well as the savvy country girl who makes it big in big time burlesque. Based on Starr's autobiography, the film, written and directed by Ron (Bull Durham) Shelton, can be raunchy, funny, sexy and sad, with time out for some tender moments between Ol' Earl and his pearl. (1989, 117

minutes. Touchstone Home Video. Rated R).

Hard to Kill: Steven Seagal stars as police detective Mason Storm, gunned down and left for dead after he gets too close to a vicious political scheme. Awakening from a seven-year coma, Storm gets back his memory and his strength and embarks on a withering revenge binge against the bad guys who tried to put him away and are silly enough to stick around to try it again. Kelly Le Brock co-stars as Storm's post-coma love interest. A sleek, generally entertaining if predictable drama whose action is violent, its pace quick, pausing only now and then for a breather. Overall, *Hard to Kill* is not hard to take. (1990, 96 minutes. Warner Home Video. Rated R).

Valmont: Milos Forman's version of the 18th century French novel of bouidoir intrigue, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, is a pretty picture about pretty people with

not-so-pretty schemes. The story centres around the Vicomte de Valmont (Colin Firth) and the Marquise de Merteuil (Annette Bening), a devious pair bent on using sex as revenge. When the Marquise's lover (Jeffrey Jones) abandons her for a virginal, convent-educated girl (Fairuza Balk), she gets back at him by bribing Valmont to seduce the bride-to-be. Meg Tilly plays the virtuous Madame de Tourvel, after whom Valmont also lusts, and Henry Thomas is a lovesick musician-poet. Basically the same story as 1988's *Dangerous Liaisons*, with much younger, fresh-faced characters, definitely not of the jaded variety, who really don't seem all that dangerous. (1989, 137 minutes. Orion Home Video. Rated R).

Courage Mountain: In the further Adventures of Heidi, the plucky Swiss miss, now a teenager, leaves her mountain home to attend school in Italy only to be caught up in the opening salvos of World

War I. When the Italian army takes over their school, Heidi (Juliette Caton) and some fellow students are whisked away to a dingy orphanage straight out of Charles Dickens. An escape takes them through body-strewn battlefields and across icy mountain peaks before the evil orphanage keeper (Yorgo Voyagis) catches up with them. Charlie Sheen plays Heidi's friend Peter, who comes to the rescue. Leslie Caron is the schoolmaster and Jan Rubes is Heidi's grandfather. Fine family fare. (1990, 92 minutes. RCA/Columbia Pictures Home Video. Rated PG).

Blood Alley: Entertaining John Wayne escapism, making its home video debut. Wayne is a merchant marine captain talked into ferrying a boatload of persecuted Chinese villagers through the menacing Formosa Straits to Hong Kong, with menacing communists in hot pursuit. Lauren Bacall tags along. (1955, 115 minutes. Warner Home Video).

Infant wins Bingo

A TEN-MONTH-OLD infant Annem Afzal Zaidi won the First Full House Prize of the Arab Times Bingo No. 77 which eluded her parents for six years.

Two more prizes were won by children. Deniz D'Silva, 5, and Lizelle Moniz won the Top Line and Four Corners prizes respectively. A Filipina, Carmencita Dizon, who had sent in only one entry won the Second Full Prize and a Goan Joseph I.M. Fernandes who was playing since Arab Times first started Bingo won the Third Full House Prize.

More than 7,000 entries were received for Bingo Game No 77 and the highest number of coupons sent by an individual was 237. The Bingo winners received their prizes on Tuesday. The next Bingo game will start next week. (PD)



Carmencita Dizon: second full house on one entry



Annem Afzal Zaidi: full house prize winner

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.40 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	3.30 pm
Maghreb	6.39
Isha	8.05

FRIDAY	3.41 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	3.30 pm
Maghreb	6.39
Isha	8.04

■ All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

Summer Bazaar

Aug. 3: The Ladies Friendship Association's Big Summer Bazaar will be held in the Exhibition Hall at Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel from 9 am to 9 pm. Gift items, home products, handicrafts, toys, clothes and much more. Raffle with attractive prizes. Surprise for children. All are welcome. For details call Manal 574-9179.

Approb 'Who's Who' directory THE Association of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (Approb) is planning to publish a "Who's Who" directory of prominent Pakistani professionals and businessmen resident in Kuwait by January 1991. The directory aims at providing information about all Pakistanis proficient and distinguished in their professions and businesses.

Data forms are available free of cost from Approb executive board members and other locations. For further details contact Approb on Tel. No. 2425315, Fax 5323751, P.O. Box 2351, Salmiya, 22024 Salmiya, Kuwait.

A copy of the directory will be given free of charge to all individuals whose names will appear in the directory.

LIL

July 30: 10 am to 12 noon. LIL will hold a newcomer's coffee morning on Monday at the Sheraton Hotel, Mezzanine floor. Ladies new to LIL or Kuwait are welcome. For details contact Janet 2434941.

Filipino rock opera

July 27: *Kailangan ka ni maria* ... If you have the talent to sing and dance and act, you may be one of the performers required in *Maria Makiling* ... isang rock opera ... a musical play to be presented by Kamay (Kalipunan ng Mapaglikhang Pinoy sa Kuwait) in co-operation with the Philippine Cultural Club (FCC) and the Philippine embassy on October 19, 1990 at the Kuwait Ice Skating Rink Theatre. The show is a folkloric stage play which will feature slow and hard rock songs, composed and adapted to dramatize the story, a Filipino rock band to play the music and some interpretative cultural dances.

Interested parties may join the audition on July 27, Friday at the Mabuhay Restaurant Ballroom from 4 pm to 8 pm. For further details, please contact any Kamay officer at their after-six headquarters, Mabuhay Restaurant.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Jazira Al Shaitan (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Yusra Al Salamiya
Halawa Al Rooh (Arabic)
Starring: Kamal Shinnawi, Safiya Al Omari
Al Hassa
Taht Al Sifr (Arabic)
Starring: Najla Fathi, Salah Saadani
Drive-In
Jazira Al Shaitan (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Yusra Al Salamiya
Pyar Ke Naam Qurban (Hindi)
Starring: Mithun Chakraborty, Dimple

Kapadia
Fatahahed Open-Ah
Main Azaad Hoon (Hindi)
Al Fatahahed
Agun Pani (Bengali)
Al Jahra
Hanafi Al Abhahu (Arabic)
Granada
Closed
Sulabikhat
Ramji Rao Speaking (Malayalam)
Friday: Three Fugitives
Al Jeeb
Oru Vadakkan Veeragadha (Malayalam)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Al Shaitanah (Arabic)

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoons
9.40 Iftah Ya Simsim
10.00 Good Morning
10.30 Al Bakhel Wa Ana: Arabic serial, starring Farid Shawki, Karimah Mukhtar, Hassan Mustafa, Hanan Shawki
11.15 Sabah Al Khair
12.00 Al Ma'sera: Arabic serial, featuring Jamil Awad, Juliet Awad
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.30 Al Sanafir: cartoon serial
2.30 Surkhah Nadm: Gulf serial, starring Maryam Saleh, Ali Hassan
3.30 Ali Laila Wa Laila
4.00 Liqa Al Khamis: weekly roundup of local news presented by Amina Al Sharrar, Majed Al Shatti
5.30 Cartoons
6.00 Report From Egypt to Kuwait
6.30 Sandook Peter: children's programme
7.30 Songs
7.45 With Islam
8.25 From People's Lives
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Al Zaera: Arabic serial, featuring Samiha Ayoub, Salah Qabil, Shireen Kamel
10.45 S'iraa Al Ahfaad: Arabic feature film, starring Noor Al Sharif, Amina Rizk, Salah Saadani
12.15 Akharna Lakum: late night entertainment
1.15 News Summary
1.20 World News via Satellite
1.45 Holy Quran/Closedown
FRIDAY
9.00 Holy Quran
9.25 Cartoons
9.50 Ta'leem Kharij Al Madrasah
10.15 Songs
10.30 Al Rahlah: children's

serial, starring Safa Al Subei, Ahmad Abdul Waris
11.00 Religious programme
11.15 Friday Prayer: live from Grand Mosque
12.30 Colours: presented by Fatima Abdul Wahab
1.00 Songs and Music
1.30 Hadith: Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwalli Sharawi
2.00 News in Arabic
2.25 Nujoom Al Ghad: local variety show, presented by Dawlat Shawki
3.45 Al Tanateef: Gulf serial
4.15 A'ini Fi Al'nak: Arabic film, starring Salah Mansour, Suhair Babil, Nabil Badr
7.30 Kuwait In A Week
8.00 Multaki Al Usrah: cultural programme
8.45 Hadith Usbooh: religious programme
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Al Zaera: Arabic serial, featuring Samiha Ayoub, Salah Qabil, Shireen Kamel
11.00 Local Variety Show
12.15 News Summary
12.20 World news via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening announcement & Holy Quran
6.10 MGM Warner cartoons
6.30 My Secret Identity: "Photon Blues", a new invention, is stolen from the lab. Dr Jecot seeks Andrew's help for its recovery. Adventure.
7.00 Star Trek: "Loud As A Whisper." Captain Peckard goes to Solas 5. He meets Riva who is mute but she starts him by being able to communicate with some. Adventure.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Adventure: "Sovay"

Jack saves the lives of a woman and man with strange histories. Adventure.
9.30 The Paul Daniels Magic show
10.00 The Bill Cosby Show: "It Isn't Romantic." An inter-family competition occurs to see who is more romantic of the males. They each have to buy a gift for their wives. Comedy.
10.30 Late night film: "Cave In." A group of people are stuck in a cave 3,000 feet deep after it caves in.
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine: D'Actualite/Closedown
FRIDAY
6.00 Opening announcement & Holy Quran
6.10 MGM Warner Cartoons
6.30 A Family Film: "Davy Crockett." The story of a famous Tennessee hunter, and Indian scout who died in Alamo. Adventure.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Breaking Away: Recreational activities throughout various parts in Kuwait. Documentary.
8.45 T and T: "Hunted." Someone tries to kill Mr T. A bodyguard is thereby hired. However Mr T does not like this idea. Adventure.
9.15 Globe TV: A Ticket to the world. Looking at different places on earth. Documentary.
10.00 Doctor Doctor: Dr Michael is offered a job with the team at the hospital. Comedy.
10.30 Men Men: "Baltimore." Dr Steve saves the life of a young girl.
11.30 News in Brief
11.40 Magazine: D'Actualite/Closedown
Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Differences remain toward Maghreb unity

Outstanding organisational issues to be studied

ALGIERS, July 25, (Reuters): Maghreb states have agreed to a customs union by 1995 but economic imbalances and organisational disputes could slow their march toward a common market.

Five North African leaders, who formed the Arab Maghreb Union last year, set a timetable for the first time at a summit that ended on Monday for realisation of a tariff-free market.

They hope to meet the challenge of the 1992 single market in Western Europe's Economic Community, their main trading partner, by spurring development now crippled by foreign debt and stagnant industries.

But Algeria, Libya, Tunisia, Mauritania and Morocco failed to agree on the site for the headquarters of their fledgling union, who to appoint as a secretary-general and

what his responsibilities should be.

These issues, which a previous summit in Tunis in January also failed to resolve, could slow the economic integration the Maghreb feels is essential to meet the challenge of the 1990s.

"The customs agreement is historic," said Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali at a post-summit news conference, adding that the outstanding organisational issues would be studied in the months ahead of the next summit in Tripoli.

Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco are all candidates to host the permanent secretariat and none appears willing to withdraw for the moment.

The summit apparently did not agree on previously announced plans to create a common airline, but endorsed five economic

accords on investment, taxes and food security.

These have no immediate practical effect but are to be implemented after careful preparation at the expert and ministerial levels to relieve taxes on trade in agricultural products, encourage inter-Maghreb investment and eliminate double taxation of revenue.

"We should not forget that other economic groupings in the world have not achieved what we have achieved in the same conditions," Moroccan King Hassan said in a speech to the closing session.

The customs agreement, as revealed before the summit closed, sets a first goal of unified tariffs for imported goods by 1991.

North African diplomats say the customs union will need delicate preparation

because of economic imbalances between the five states, which link 65 million people and a combined gross national product of more than \$100 billion annually.

Libya, and especially Algeria, have strong heavy and intermediate industries but relatively undeveloped consumer goods sectors compared to Tunisia and Morocco.

While this allows some degree of economic complementarity, it also means Algeria and Libya could be flooded with goods from Morocco and Tunisia if tariffs are lifted, putting their own factories at a disadvantage.

The impact of political differences also remains to be seen, notably the 15-year-old conflict that pits independence-seeking Polisario guerrillas backed by Algeria against Morocco.



Maghreb heads of state sign economic integration accords in Algiers. (Reuters wirephoto)

US clears BA stake in Sabena Airlines

LONDON, July 25, (AP): The Department of Trade and Industry today cleared British Airways PLC's planned linkup with the Belgian carrier Sabena World Airlines, to which the European Economic Commission has objected.

The department's decision follows a British Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation which found that British Airways' intended 20 per cent stake in Sabena would not operate against the public interest.

The Sabena deal also calls for KLM Royal Dutch Airways to take a 20 per cent stake in the Belgian airline, which would be 60 per cent owned by the Belgian government-controlled parent company Sabena SA.

British Airways and KLM were each to pay about \$62 million for their stakes.

The European Commission, which safeguards competition in Europe, decided in June that the deal could hurt competition at the Brussels airport, and the original agreement now is to be renegotiated through talks with the EEC.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission found in its investigation that British air travellers would benefit from a Brussels-based hub-and-spoke system the airlines want to set up.

The joint venture would increase the choice available on intercontinental flights, the department quoted the commission as saying.

The Monopolies Commission also found that British Airways and Sabena, currently the only airlines serving Brussels from London's Heathrow airport, would be no more likely to raise prices on the route under the new agreement than before. Pricing on the route is governed by Britain's Civil Aviation Authority.

The Monopolies Commission report also found that the CAA would be in a position to restrain Sabena from gaining any future competitive advantage in serving London's other airports from Brussels.

Japan to extend grants to China

TOKYO, July 25, (AP): Japan will extend to China grants of 2.6 billion yen (\$17.3 million) that were delayed because of Beijing's crackdown on dissident last summer, the Foreign Ministry said today.

Japan last week announced plans to resume a loan package worth 810 billion yen (\$5.5 billion) promised to China in 1988 but also frozen because of last June's military attack on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing that killed hundreds of civilians.

A ministry official said on condition of not being identified the grants included 2.481 million yen (\$16.5 million) to improve water purification plants.

In Beijing, former Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and Chinese Premier Li Peng said today the first project for the five-year loan package will be chosen by October.

Last week, former Japanese Foreign Minister Hiroshi Miura told Chinese leaders that Tokyo disbursed 60 billion yen (\$411 million) in September as the first payment in the package.

The entire package is for 42 projects covering railways, telecommunications, ports, power plants, airports, fertilizer factories, highways and sewage systems.

In his meeting with Miyazawa, Li praised Japan for adopting a "friendly attitude" toward China at the US summit of seven industrialised nations earlier this month, China's official Xinhua news agency reported.

Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu gained tacit approval from other Western leaders at the summit to resume the loan programme Kaifu said isolating China would hurt regional security.

Xinhua said Li told Miyazawa "now should be the time for action" on the loans.

NY crude prices rise

Opec meeting today

NEW YORK, July 25, (Agencies): Despite last-minute profit taking, US crude-oil prices rose on the New York mercantile exchange yesterday on concerns about Iraq's border dispute with Kuwait.

The benchmark west Texas intermediate crude for September delivery ended the day on the Merc at 6 cents at \$20.56 a barrel, after trading as high as \$20.92 a barrel. Volume was a heavy 108,191 futures contracts.

The oil market, however, may have been expressing some scepticism in a wave of profit taking and heavy selling in the last few minutes prior to the Merc 3:10 pm close.

WTI was trading around \$20.70 a barrel when heavy sales by some large traders hit the exchange shortly prior to the Merc's closing, said Bill Hinton of Stotler and Co. in New York.

"There was some very heavy selling at the close, enough to make the market come off," Hinton said.

Opec

(Continued from Page 1)

lobby, Dr Amersi said, in an answer to whether he thought an oil price of \$25 a barrel was valid, "we will have to see. We have not met officially. We have to get everyone's view."

Later on, questioned on the same issue, he said, "if there is an increase, it should be a reasonable increase."

Ceiling

Asked whether Kuwait was still in favour of sticking to the overall ceiling of 22.5 million barrels a day, Dr Amersi replied, "we will stick to our quota for the time being. We have to see if there is any possibility for increase in the future. But this is still open for discussion."

Dr Amersi pointed out that it was up to the general meeting to decide on when the production ceiling could be raised — whether now or in the fourth quarter.

To a question on whether he was moving away from the Jeddah accord, Amersi said: "No, I am not backing away from what was agreed at Jeddah. We are trying to maintain the ceiling but leaving the door open for the future." He described the Jeddah meeting as "very successful."

Positive

There was a general impression that the current tension prevailing in the Gulf would not derail the "historic"

meeting to arrive at a new consensus to achieve higher oil prices.

Replying to a question whether recent events in the Gulf would affect Opec talks here, the Oil Minister of Gabon, Jean Ping, said: "If what is happening there should affect the meeting, I hope it affects it positively." He also added that "we hope that this meeting will affect what is happening in the Gulf in order to strengthen the peace."

Upon his arrival at the venue of the conference yesterday the oil minister of Iraq, said in reply to questions: "We have made many announcements before, and they are all valid, they are all valid."

The oil minister of Saudi Arabia, Hashim Mohideen Nasser, observed that he was willing to accept a higher reference price for oil, but did not give any precise figures.

Soviet Union yesterday expressed hope that the Opec conference in Geneva would agree on "correct" decisions concerning the prices of crude oil.

"There was a lot of profit taking in the last 10 minutes," agreed Peter Beutel, a trader with Merrill Lynch Futures Inc. in New York.

World crude prices have already risen \$3-\$4 a barrel since early this month on the belief that Opec will succeed in bringing the UAE to heel.

Opec oil ministers are scheduled to hold their semi-annual meeting in Geneva on Thursday, in which Kuwait and the UAE are expected to howl to demands that they limit their oil output so world crude prices will rise.

This view was given credence by the Arab League's US envoy in Washington, Clovis Mak-soud, who said, "the reports are highly exaggerated. We believe the economic and political situation will be resolved very soon."

"I think the result of the diplomatic attempt to calm things will be evident later this week when Opec meets in Geneva. Both Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates have been cooperative."

On the European cash market, United Arab Emirates' Dubai light — the key Opec crude from the Middle East shipped mainly to the Far East — edged up 25 cents to \$17 a barrel.

Britain's widely traded North Sea Brent gained 17 cents to \$19.10 a barrel.

On the US Gulf coast cash market, prompt delivery WTI slipped 10 cents to \$19.55 a barrel.

On the Merc, unleaded gasoline for August delivery eased down 0.07 cent on the day to 63.28 cents a gallon, while August delivery heating oil climbed 0.82 cents to 57.32 cents a gallon.

Japan's crude oil imports in June rose 4.1 per cent over a year ago to 89.4 million barrels (14.35 kl), the Ministry of International Trade and Industry reported Monday.

The ministry said Saudi Arabia was the largest supplier with its shipments surging 67.3 per cent to account for 21.1 per cent of the total imports.

Sharp decline in US durable goods orders

WASHINGTON, July 25, (AP): Orders to US factories for "big ticket" manufactured goods plunged 3.2 per cent in June, the government said today.

The Commerce Department said demand for durable goods — items expected to last three or more years — suffered a May-to-June decline of \$4.14 billion to a seasonally adjusted \$124.69 billion last month.

The report caught analysts by surprise. They had been expecting a healthy increase following a 4.2 per cent rise in May.

Dollar closes lower in Europe

LONDON, July 25, (UPI): The US dollar closed lower against most of the major European currencies today in quiet trading, said dealers.

The dollar had moved up earlier as dealers bought the unit as a safe haven currency when it seemed problems in the Middle East could escalate, but the stronger trend was only temporary as near the close of the trading day things seemed to be resolving themselves in the Gulf, said analysts.

In Frankfurt, the dollar closed lower at 1.6225 marks against 1.6255 at Tuesday's close, and it was also down in Zurich at 1.3795 Swiss francs compared to 1.3865 Tuesday.

In London, the pound had a quiet day after plunging overnight in the wake of British Chancellor of the Exchequer, John Major's comments that he expected British inflation to go above ten per cent this summer.

The pound closed nearly two cents down at \$1.8095 compared to 1.8250.

Analysts said dealers retreated on sterling after Major failed to give any clear reference to British plans for entry into the European exchange rate mechanism.

The US unit closed lower in Paris, and Milan, at 5.4450 French francs against 5.4475, and at 1,188.75 lire against 1,189.60. It was also down in Brussels at 33.43 Belgian francs from 33.45 at close Tuesday.

Earlier in Tokyo, the US dollar strengthened against the Japanese yen on news reports of unrest in the Middle East and speculation that US interest rates will remain stable.

The dollar closed at 149.13 yen, 0.43 yen higher than Tuesday's close of 148.70 yen, the Bank of Japan said.

In New York, US stocks closed higher on Tuesday, as buyers moved into the market late in the day to grab blue-chip bargains left over after Monday's big tumble.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 17.82 points to 2,922.52, recouping almost a third of the 56.44 point fall on Monday, when a broad decline saw the Dow down as much as 109 points early in the day.

But the broader market showed less movement, with declines and advances almost even on the New York Stock Exchange, where there were 744 gainers and 743 losers. NYSE volume shrunk to 181.9 million shares from 209.0 million on Monday. Secondary averages ended mixed.

Shares on London's international stock exchange held steady yesterday, but finished off the market high after a weak opening on Wall Street, said analysts.

In Tokyo, the Nikkei stock average of 225 selected issues lost a marginal 1.19 points, or 0.004 per cent, closing at 31,701.27. The index had shed 192.33 points on Tuesday.

The widely watched index has lost 1,354.35 points in four trading days.

Business briefs

PIA chooses Dmarts: Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), has joined the growing network of Dmarts (Direct Multi Access Reservation System), the computer reservations facility operated by Dnata.

The airline has chosen Dmarts in the Gulf to offer computerised booking facilities to travel agents.

The link-up was announced at a seminar staged by Dmarts and the airline in Dubai on Wednesday. More than 50 travel agents attended. (Press Release)

Bulgaria plans to raise prices: Bulgaria's socialist government expects to raise prices by up to 80 per cent on everything except basic food next month. Finance Minister Belcho Belchev said on Tuesday.

"We expect an increase in prices of about 74 to 80 per cent in August," Belchev said. "By the end of the year about 40 per cent of goods in Bulgaria will be affected."

Belchev said the increases were part of a plan to rescue Bulgaria's debt-ridden economy. (Reuters)

ADB approves aid to Tunisia: The African Development Bank (ADB) said on Tuesday it had approved a 60 million SDR (\$80 million) line of credit to Tunisia to help the North African country expand its tourism industry.

The Abidjan-based bank said the loan would be channelled through the National Bank for the Development of Tourism to finance projects such as the construction of additional hotel rooms. (Reuters)

Angola's state oil plans changes: Angola's state oil company Sonangol announced details on Monday of a restructuring plan to divide itself up and become a single contact point for foreign oil firms operating in the country.

Under the plan, Sonangol would become a state-owned holding company with autonomous or semi-autonomous subsidiaries for research and production, distribution and other sectors. (Reuters)

NBB's mid-90 profits up: National Bank of Bahrain BSC (NBB), the island's oldest commercial bank, said its net profit for the first half of 1990 rose 12.5 per cent to 5.4 million dinars (\$14.4 million) from the same period last year.

The bank said in a statement the increase in profits was mainly due to a cut in loan loss provisions to 1.9 million dinars (\$5 million) for the first half of 1990 from 2.5 million (\$6.6 million) the previous year. (Reuters)

No trace of Ukrainian gold in Bank of England

LONDON, July 25, (UPI): A 16 trillion pound hoard of Ukrainian gold is not lying in the vaults of the Bank of England, and the renegade Soviet republic cannot even apply for the purported colossal sum unless it totally secedes from Moscow, officials said today.

In Kiev, members of the Ukrainian parliament which declared sovereignty on July 16 say London must hand back the money they claim was deposited some 270 years ago by a Cossack leader when the Eastern European region was independent from Moscow.

They said the barrel of gold, which was booty owned by Col Pavel Polubotok, had appreciated over the centuries to a current worth of £16 billion (\$29 trillion), or six times the US gross domestic product.

A Bank of England spokesman said workers had searched the vaults and scoured their oldest leather-bound ledgers, but found no trace of the gold.

"We have looked but we have not found anything," he said. "And we are not in the habit of losing gold."

The official said the reputable financial house, on which most central banks around the world are modelled, had never had a claim that went back so far in time, with the sum remaining untouched.

Even if the bank located the money — which would be worth \$546,000 for every Ukrainian — it could not hand over anything until the rights of Kiev's claim were established, he said.

Street musicians

Westerners drawn to Tokyo

TOKYO, July 25, (AP): A hundred Japanese oblivious to the giant flashing video screens around Shibuya Square listen intently as Hank Hirsch's alto saxophone dances around "The Sunny Side of the Street."

Afterwards, spectators approach shyly and drop 1,000-yen (\$6.70) bills into his open case. Hirsch bows, thanks them in Japanese and launches into a jazz "autumn leaves" with bassist Fukuro Kazuya.

"Down on the street, I make the same money I'd make in a regular gig, but it's much more fun," said Hirsch, 39, originally from Chicago but now living in Kyoto. "I'm communicating with people... the people who like it stop and listen."

Hirsch, who also plays in nightclubs and teaches saxophone in Kyoto, later said he split 340,000 yen (\$2,270) with his bassist for six days on the streets of Tokyo.

He is one of hundreds of Western musicians, performance artists, jugglers, mimes, puppeteers and street merchants drawn to Japan's largest city by its generous tippers and relatively safe streets.

There are risks, including gangsters demanding payoffs from performers on their turf, and an occasional belligerent drunk. Competing Western performers sometimes inform on each other, although the police generally leave them alone if they don't create a disturbance.

"But in Japan, there is a certain respect for the body," said David Findlay of Vancouver, Canada, a mime playing on a street in the Shinjuku entertainment area. "There's no way I'd do this in Canada — they'd treat me too badly."

Findlay, in whiteface, had a sign saying "I am a pantomime. Please use your hands to move me freely." Giggling teen-age girls moved his arms and legs into funny positions. Others whooped in delight when he pointed at them, silently inviting them to manipulate him.

"He is very tough," said one admiring Japanese man. "We cannot do this."

Findlay, 36, said foreigners "can make incredibly good money in Japan if they're any good. It's the fact that you're a foreigner. If a Japanese were doing it, they'd get a different reaction."

Japanese do perform on Tokyo's streets, but usually not for money. Dozens of rock bands play side-by-side on a crowded street near Yoyogi Park, and teen-agers in greased-back hair, black leather and sunglasses dance to

1950s music on boom boxes. Saxophonists, trombonists and conga players practice jazz riffs and rhythms under bridges and in parks, but most seem to be playing for the sheer joy of it.

Some street Westerners are supplementing their incomes as English teachers: others are gathering money to continue travels around the world.

Many live in rooming houses that cost the equivalent of about \$400 a month, inhabited by other denizens of the low-end Western subculture in Japan. These include teachers, writers, drifters, occasional smugglers and scores of North American and European women who work as nightclub hostesses, earning 3,000 yen (\$20) an hour to pour drinks and talk sweetly to businessmen.

Street Westerners sell everything from jewellery and mass-produced oil paintings to battery-powered panda bears.

"I tell people I'm an art student and I painted these in Paris, these in Hawaii," said a young Canadian woman selling pictures of horses, landscapes and seascapes in Shinjuku. She declined to give her name. "The real sad thing is I have a degree in art history."

In the fashionable shopping area of Harajuku, freelance journalist Bill Balfour of Sheffield, England, was selling Soviet army watches, pins and patches he bought during a recent reporting trip to Sakhalin.


He was dressed in a Soviet Army uniform, and his pitch was, "Excuse me, sir, do you know what time it is in Moscow?" People admired the watches, but Balfour acknowledged the fact he had not caught on.

The street is run to the Japanese underworld, known as Yakuza, and Westerners say the Yakuza demand between 3,000 yen (\$20) and 10,000 yen (\$66) per week, depending on the area.

"It's worth it to pay the mafia," Findlay said. "If someone (a competing performer) is in my patch, I don't have to do anything about it."

But other performers say the Yakuza have pushed them around, kicked their instruments, even thrown firecrackers in an effort to get their payoff.

Grego, a one-man band and puppeteer from northern California who asked that his last name not be used because he doesn't have a legal working permit, said one Yakuza who was refused payment called in the police. "The cops said, 'we're sorry, but please go home, you can come back (to perform) later,'" said Grego. "The Japanese spectators stood back and watched... but everyone cheered when the Yakuza left."



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The deadline for the submittal is the 12th of August 1990.

Bush blasts Democrats for causing the nation's fiscal woes

NEW YORK, July 25, (Reuters): US President George Bush yesterday ignored an agreement to avoid partisan rhetoric on the budget and blasted Democrats for causing the nation's fiscal woes.

Bush, who had muted his criticism of congressional Democrats during a speech in Philadelphia earlier in the day, took broad swipes at his rival party during a fund-raising dinner in New York.

"Twenty-nine out of the last 35 years of Democrat dominance in Congress have taken their toll," Bush complained.

"Like Republican presidents before me, I know that to deal with a Democrat Congress is to often face government by gridlock — with spending skyrocketing out of control, good legislation thrown aside for pork, and a budget deficit looming over our children's children," he said.

During a speech to promote the candidacy of New York Republican gubernatorial candidate Pierre Rinfret in his bid to unseat Democratic Governor Mario Cuomo, Bush said: "We all know that the Democrats have a long track record on spending."

Bush met with Democratic and Republican leaders at the White House earlier in the day and agreed the political rhetoric should be toned down as they seek a bipartisan agreement on dealing with the deficit.

Deputy White House spokesman Stephen Hart insisted that Bush had not violated the verbal truce, saying the attack "does not go directly to the budget process." Hart said the comments were an attack on Congress and not the budget negotiations.

House majority leader Richard Gephardt,

a Missouri Democrat, said that President Bush's recent attacks on congressional Democrats at Republican fund-raising events aren't helping the process of finding a compromise.

"One of the things discussed today was to stop the political debate and start the substantive debate and to try to cut down on the political comment that's gone on all sides," Gephardt told reporters outside the White House.

Bush himself seemed downbeat, refusing to

answer questions at a picture-taking session at the start of yesterday's meeting. "Don't even try, I'm in a bad mood today," Bush told reporters. He did not elaborate.

Gephardt said that Bush had agreed to cool down his attacks and "I think you're going to see that happen."

Gephardt, who is the leader of the "budget summit" negotiations when Bush is not present, said he still thought it possible that accord could be reached by early August, when Congress begins its summer recess.

"But I don't know for absolute sure that we can do that," he added. "It may be that we can't get all of it done. But we're going to give it the good old college try."

House speaker Thomas S. Foley said decisions remain to be made on the precise amount of deficit reduction that would be sought, and how much of the savings would come from new taxes and spending cuts. Bargainers have said they expect any compromise to contain about \$50 billion in savings, divided in half between revenues and spending reductions.

Timetable set to prevent failure

Gatt negotiators sidestep clashes

GENEVA, July 25, (Agencies): The United States, European Community and other major trading nations drafted an intensified negotiating timetable on Wednesday aimed at rescuing the stalled Uruguay Round trade liberalisation talks.

At the same time, the EC publicly reaffirmed its commitment to the four-year talks scheduled to end in December.

"The community repeats its commitment to play its full part in concluding these negotiations," EC external relations director Hugo Paemen told a meeting of high officials to assess the situation with just four months left.

"The Uruguay Round remains an essential priority for the community," he said.

Paemen told a news conference that he also met privately with US delegates to dismiss doubts voiced by Washington about the EC's fundamental position.

"We said we didn't know why there were such doubts and reaffirmed the community's commitment to a successful conclusion," he said.

Officials said the review meeting would end Thursday, one day earlier than scheduled, because negotiators wanted to get back to capitals quickly to report and get new instructions.

Paemen and other ranking delegates said an accelerated and upgraded negotiating timetable would be announced Thursday by Arthur Dunkel, director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The draft programme, they said, included several key dates:

■ Sept 30: Presentation of detailed national agricultural support and export subsidy schemes and possible reductions.

■ Oct 8: A return to Geneva of high government officials to meet "on a more or less permanent basis" to reinforce the lower-ranking permanent negotiating teams.

■ Oct 15: Presentation by governments of improved market access offers.

■ Nov 15: A draft package covering all 15 Uruguay Round sectors to be submitted to participants by Dunkel.

■ Dec 4: Trade ministers meet in Brussels to try and complete a full agreement.

Negotiators appeared eager to wrap up the latest session of world trade bargaining without engaging in the rough-and-tumble politics that have dogged the talks for four years.

Delegates predicted this week's meeting of General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiators would end sooner than most had expected — perhaps by Thursday — although they could not rule out a last-minute clash.

"We would have been happier if we could have seen more effort by chief negotiators to take on more issues than they appear willing to do," a GATT official said.

At loggerheads over farm trade reform since the Uruguay Round of talks was launched in 1986, the United States and the European Community agreed to get down to serious bargaining next month.

And delegates endorsed reports spelling out differences and negotiating timetables in 14 other areas, ranging from textiles to trademarks.

But, as one delegate put it, "the agreements to disagree" only postponed painful decisions, leaving little time in talks that are due to end in December.

"I would have liked to have accomplished more," commented chief US negotiator Julius Katz.



"WELL, LOOK UNDER ROCKS TO FIND THOSE GAIL WHITE COLORED CRIMINALS!" — EUSA

Iran to seek \$17.5b in foreign loans

Post-war reconstruction

NICOSIA, July 25, (AP): The head of Iran's Central Bank said Tehran will seek \$17.5 billion in foreign loans to build a production project, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported today.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Mohammed Hussein Adeli as saying "the country's budget has provisions utilising foreign resources and we plan to secure it from sources, institutions or countries which could be to our interest."

Speaking at a banking seminar in Tehran, Adeli did not specify where Iran would seek loans or what project would be built.

"Iran has come to the conclusion to use some \$17.5 billion from foreign sources on the condition that it is solely spent on the execution of a certain production project," Irna quoted Adeli as saying.

In the past, Iranian leaders have shunned foreign borrowing on the grounds that it is anti-constitutional.

But the pragmatic government of President Hashemi Rafsanjani has been engaged in

gradually modifying many of the country's economic policies to speed up post-war reconstruction, boost sluggish production and get the ailing economy back on its feet.

However, Rafsanjani's hard-line opposition, led by former interior minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, is opposed to the government's economic and foreign policies.

From his seat in the parliament, won after he was sacked by Rafsanjani last year, Mohtashemi has vehemently argued against foreign borrowing on the grounds it will plunge Iran into an endless cycle of debt.

Rafsanjani's five-year economic plan, launched last year, already calls for \$27 billion in foreign investment. But his government had previously said it would not seek straight loans.

Adeli's comments were the first indication that Tehran may have modified its earlier decision.

Iran's excellent credit situation should make it relatively easy to raise foreign loans, experts say.

Creating jobs to cut influx into US

WASHINGTON, July 25, (AP):

Creating jobs in Mexico and other countries is the only long-term way to cut illegal immigration into the United States, a special commission told Congress after a three-year study.

Diego C. Asencio, a former US Assistant Secretary of State, headed the commission for the study of International Migration and Co-operative Economic Development. Congress set up the 12-member group in 1986.

Asencio testified yesterday before the foreign affairs committee of the House of Representatives.

Commission and committee members agreed that there are millions of legal immigrants in the United States but that there is no reliable figure.

"In the short term, economic development actually promotes rather than retards emigration," he said.

"However, promoting economic development is the proper way to proceed if we are serious about stemming unauthorised migration in this hemisphere over the long term, and I must emphasise that we are talking about a process that will probably take decades."

The commission recommended creating a new agency for migration affairs to take charge of refugees and immigrants.

"As a young vice-consul I could never understand why one agency should allow immigrants to come in and another decide if that was all right," Asencio said.

Consuls, who work for the State Department, issue visas in other countries for entry into the United States. The Immigration and Naturalisation Service of the Justice Department has authority over them after they arrive. That includes authority to issue the precious green cards that give them the right to work.

Asencio said the first reaction he had from the State Department was unfavourable to his proposed new agency.

"Some people would lose their jobs and they don't like that," he explained.

The commission said any major US decision on aid and trade for other countries should have with it an "impact statement" to show the effect of the decision on immigration.

Congressman Sam Gejdenson, himself an immigrant, complained that although official US policies discourage immigration, ways are always found to bring in workers when they are needed.

The commission also recommended:

■ Speeding creation of a free-trade area with Mexico and bringing it into the free-trade area with Canada;

■ Supporting freer trade with other Western hemisphere countries but leaving the initiative to them;

■ Gradually letting Mexico and Caribbean countries ship to the United States to the cloth, clothes and steel now coming from Asia;

■ Increasing sugar imports from the Caribbean;

■ Linking trade benefits to rights of workers in the exporting country, particularly the rights of workers in the assembly plants along Mexico's border;

Business News Briefs

Iraq, Saudi accord: Iraq and Saudi Arabia signed an agreement in Baghdad on Sunday, under which the kingdom will finance the development of an electricity grid in the Iraqi southern port city of Basrah.

The accord stipulates the financing of reconstruction and renovation of the electricity network. The agreement was signed by Iraqi Trade Minister Dr Mohammed Mehdi Saleh and the vice-president of the Saudi Development Fund, Mohammed Bin Abdullah. (Openca)

Turkey raises wages: Turkey on Tuesday raised minimum monthly wages for agricultural and industrial workers by 84 per cent to 414,000 liras (\$155) from 225,000 liras (\$84).

The rise reported by the Anatolian News Agency, is to offset annual inflation of 62.6 per cent at the end of June. It will be effective from August 1.

The government gave 25 per cent semi-annual salary rises to civil servants in July, sparking demonstrations by employees who expected more. (Reuters)

Raycom tie-up: NKK Corp., the world's largest steel pipe maker, said Tuesday it has signed a business tie-up agreement with Raycom Systems Inc. of the United States for the manufacture and sale of Raycom's high-speed optical fiber in-house information and data communication systems.

The Tokyo-based company said Raycom's Local Area Network (LAN) will go on the Japanese market in August under the name of Transway. (UPI)

Jakarta plant order: Indonesia's electricity authority Perusahaan Umum Listrik Negara has ordered a 1,500-megawatt, dual-fuel natural gas and coal-fired combined cycle power plant, the world's largest of its kind, from a Japanese-West German group.

The 100 billion yen (\$667 million) order was received jointly by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd and Siemens AG of West Germany, the Japanese company said. (UPI)

Kawasaki to invest: Kawasaki Steel Corp. said Wednesday it plans to invest at least \$1.5 billion to renovate production facilities at its joint venture with US steel maker Armco.

The project calls for improvement of production facilities at Armco Steel Co., established in Middletown, Ohio, in May last year by Kawasaki and Armco. (UPI)

Sumitomo subsidiaries in US: Leading Japanese commercial bank Sumitomo Bank announced Wednesday a major restructuring plan to consolidate its non-banking operations in the United States.

The company said a wholly owned subsidiary will be established in New York to supervise operations of two existing non-banking subsidiaries and three others to be launched and provide management services to them. (UPI)

\$155m damages awarded: A federal judge on Tuesday awarded \$155 million in damages to the French government and other interests harmed by the 1978 oil spill from the supertanker Amoco Cadiz.

Judge Charles Norgle of the US District Court basically affirmed a damages award originally set in January of 1988. The matter is subject to further appeals and it may be years before any of the parties involved receive the money. (Reuters)



Welcome

Swiss Finance Minister Jean-Pascal Delamuraz (left) is welcomed to the World Bank by the bank president Barber Conable on Tuesday. Both of them signed two agreements on assistance funds for Eastern Europe. (Reuters wirephoto)

Onshima

Toyota vice-chairman dies of heart failure

TOKYO, July 25, (UPI): Tsutomu Onshima, vice-chairman of Toyota Motor Corp. who played a key role in co-ordinating the company's diversified business operations, died of heart failure at a Tokyo hospital yesterday, the company announced today, he was 66.

A native of Nagoya, the home of Japan's top automaker, Onshima joined the company in September 1948 after graduation from Tohoku University's literature and law department.

Onshima was promoted to vice-chairman from vice-president in January this year.

He was instrumental in laying the foundation of Toyota's domestic marketing organisation and establishing an effective framework for the company's overseas parts and components purchasing activities, the company said.

Onshima was also vice-president of Toyota's Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, where President John Kennedy died of an assassin's bullet, said the nation's public hospitals are shouldering much of the care for the poor.

Congress is considering several bills that would provide some form of national health insurance.

Barbara Lord Watkins of Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, where President John Kennedy died of an assassin's bullet, said the nation's public hospitals are shouldering much of the care for the poor.

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Brazil negotiates oil deal with Iran

BRASILIA, Brazil, July 25, (AP): The government has begun talks with Iran to resume oil purchases as a hedge against impending shortages and higher prices, officials said.

Brazil's powerful Minister of Infrastructure, Ozires Silva, met on Monday with an Iranian delegation headed by Deputy Prime Minister Majid Hedayatzadeh to discuss a new oil agreement.

Silva said Iran "showed great interest" in resuming oil sales to Brazil. Until last September, this country received 80,000 barrels of crude oil a day from Iran in exchange for Brazilian goods, including arms.

Brazil produces 665,000 barrels of oil daily and consumes about 1.1 million barrels.

Silva said the days of low oil prices would end.

Kremlin announces new policy

Radical plans to mop up foreign currency

MOSCOW, July 25, (Reuters): The Soviet government has announced radical plans to mop up foreign currency, introducing real interest rates, an effective amnesty for black market dollars and shops to spend them in.

Deputy Prime Minister Stepan Sitaryan, head of the Foreign Economic Commission, told Tass news agency that Soviet citizens held \$340 million worth of convertible currency which they had been banned from spending in the Soviet Union.

In line with a government resolution announced yesterday a network of trade houses and private shops will open where Soviet business or private citizens can buy imported and high-quality domestically produced goods.

Sitaryan said Soviet citizens would also be allowed in future to open foreign currency accounts at the foreign trade bank Vnesheconombank without declaring where they got the money.

"This will enable many Soviet citizens owning foreign currency to legalise it and use it on Soviet territory," Tass quoted him as saying.

Ordinary Soviet people have been banned from

holding convertible currency for decades. But growing contact with the West since Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev came to power has greatly increased expectations, smuggling and the black market.

Sitaryan said the government would reconsider its interest rate policy for these deposits in foreign currency accounts, as an additional incentive for depositors.

Interest, damned in communist ideology as exploitation by capitalists, has traditionally been minimal or non-existent.

Sitaryan, a key figure in Gorbachev's plans to convert to a "planned market economy," said a reason for the new policy was that Soviet enterprises had begun hoarding foreign currency reserves to keep their workers happy.

He forecast that once the new system was in place the government would earn a healthy foreign currency income from it. But he said the government was aware it could provoke protests from some sectors of society.

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs)				Ind Rayon	134	134.50	134
July 25, '90.				JK Steel	237.50	237	286.25
	Pr. Close	Open	Close	JK Syn	72	71	—
AACC	—	520	940	King Engr	170	175	178
Alcan Chem	—	—	—	KSR Pump	89	82.50	8
Alcan Ind	—	—	—	L & T	94	105	111
Ashtek	—	—	—	Lipton	85	89	9
Ashtek Ltd	86	87.50	90	Mac Russel	90	90	93.75
Asia Paint	250	250	262.50	Mahindra	150	140	150
Atlas Corp	46	47	48	Mahindra	95	95	95
Auto Corp	—	72.50	72.50	Mas Share	24	26.50	25.55
Nat Index	494.52	519.57	519.57	Mico	970	990	1010
Nat Index	517.50	522.50	538.75	Moodfood	80	80	210
Bar Rayon	1085	1100	1140	MRF Ltd	330	—	—
Bharat Plast	—	—	—	Muk Iron	141	149	151
Bom Dyes	250	252	260	Nai Org	1360	1370	1480
BK Bond	120	126.50	125	Nippon	44	43	44
Burr Well	77.50	70	77.50	Orkay	25.50 <th>29</th> <th>29</th>	29	29
Cashmere	4175	4425	4300	Oswal Agro	40	40	41
Cash India	3990	3950	4000	Pelico	90	95	90
Cm Spg	250	252.50	277.50	Ponds	267.50 <th>290</th> <th>200</th>	290	200
Colgate	—	1100	1100	Prem Auto	67	69	7
Crompt Gr	35.50	38	42	Ranbaxy	99	95	100
DCW	29.50	30	30	Ray Wool	90	92	94
Dewan Fect	—	62.50	65	Rockin	240	240	240
Dunlop	—	62.50	62.50	Reliance	97.50	111	111
El Hotels	60	60	62	Sesa Gso	103.50	117.50	110
El Resorts	108	112.50	113.75	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
ESR Index	940.73	1027	1007.97	Shree Cam	—	—	—
ESSE Ind	147.50	162.50	162.50	Shri Fib	57.50	60	57.50
Basis Spg	41.50	45	47	Siemens	116	118	122
Food Sp	135	142.50	143.75	SKF	1630	1690	1720
Forbes	63	65	80	Spic	66	67	72.50
Gay Poly	37.50	43	42	St Mifs	74	73	73
GENCO	102.50	102.50	102.50	Tata Oil <th>120</th> <th>127</th> <th>134</th>	120	127	134
GNPC	39.50	40.50	39.50	Tata Chem <th>120</th> <th>127</th> <th>134</th>	120	127	134
Grasim	146	154	158	Tata Pow <th>930</th> <th>1040</th> <th>1040</th>	930	1040	1040
GS Shipg	42	46.50	46	Telco <th>175</th> <th>178</th> <th>178</th>	175	178	178
GSFC	225	222.50	215	Thapp Agro	134.25 <th>141</th> <th>142.50</th>	141	142.50
Gul Gid	91.50	92	94	Vam Org <th>137.50<th>158</th><th>161.25</th></th>	137.50 <th>158</th> <th>161.25</th>	158	161.25
Gul Heavy	17	17	17	Vareli <th>—</th> <th>—</th> <th>—</th>	—	—	—
Hera Honda	38	38	40	Volitas <th>104</th> <th>107</th> <th>111</th>	104	107	111
Hind Chh	1525	1650	1700	Winco <th>24.50</th> <th>32</th> <th>32</th>	24.50	32	32
Hind Lower	134	134	135	Zenith <th>22<th>22<th>22</th></th></th>	22 <th>22<th>22</th></th>	22 <th>22</th>	22
Hind Cocan	177.50	184	195.50	Zuari Agro <th>70<th>72.50</th><th>70</th></th>	70 <th>72.50</th> <th>70</th>	72.50	70
Hind Motor	44.75	48.50	49.50				
Hindcoat	312.50	325	323.75				
Hoodlast	260.00	2750	2800				
Hugoboll	255	290	265				
ITC	93	95	97.50				
Ind Org	61	64.50	66	Compiled by Kuvadi-India			Inter-
				national Express Co.			

Indian Cinema

Amitabh seeks a miracle

By Firoze Rangoonwala
Arab Times correspondent

SUPERSTAR Amitabh Bachchan has been waiting for a box-office hit for a long time. It eludes him. He craves for renewed success. It's yet to come. The question now being asked is in trade circles whether the superstar will get a miraculous hit in coming months.

Bachchan himself admits: "None of my coming films have anything that can be called exactly new."

What is he banking on? Charisma. Obviously. And gimmicks combining action, comedy and song-dance routines. Will he avoid them? Not really, at least not in his forthcoming ventures.

Bachchan's myth lives on. Trade circles juggle figures and claim his films may not be successful at the box office yet his name manages to recover costs. Some glibly claim that films like *Shahenshah* and *Toofan* raked in a million. Mammoohan Desai claims his *Ganga, Jamuna, Saraswati* was a runaway hit in Bengal and Central India. His claim is like someone claiming he saw the peacock dance in the jungle.

Only the distributors know the truth. They are the people who recover the box-office gains and count the rupees.

Producers are playing safe. They are cautious about launching a new venture with Bachchan, who has not signed a new movie in the past few months. Planned projects like Tinnu Anand's *Mahakal* have been abandoned. Perhaps, Bachchan is playing the wait-and-see game to see the trends and plan his strategy.

Producers are finding it difficult to sell Bachchan films. *Ajooba* has not been sold in Andhra Pradesh and south India, which covers Kerala and Karnataka. *Aaj Ka Arjun* was sold for the territories of Bombay, Delhi-UP, Central Provinces and Central India. This film has not been sold in ten zones and sub-zones. *Akalya*, on the contrary, has to be sold for three territories. But Bachchan is not keen on its release. It features "Meenakshi", "Bhadra" and "Amrita Singh". Bachchan's pairing with them in recent movies flopped.

Distributors in east Punjab have bought *Hum*. It has also been sold for Bengal, Andhra and Tamil Nadu. *Indrajeet* has been bought for Delhi-UP (the Hindi belt) and Andhra. Despite Sri Devi as co-star, the rights for *Khadka Gawah* are open everywhere except Bengal and Rajasthan.

The hesitant, cautious response to new Bachchan starrers has dealt a blow to producer's confidence. There is a possibility of producers delaying films sale to gain a point for bargaining prices. But such tactics are

Bachchan myth survives flops

The hesitant, cautious response to new Bachchan starrers has dealt a blow to producer's confidence. There is a possibility of producers delaying films sale to gain a point for bargaining prices. But such tactics are employed only when the film nears completion and distributors indulge in panic buying. At this point, a film can be sold at inflated prices.

Previously, Bachchan starrers did not require such tactics.



Amitabh Bachchan and Amrish Puri fight it out in *Aaj Ka Arjun*.

employed only when the film nears completion and distributors indulge in panic buying. At this point, a film can be sold at inflated prices.

Previously, Bachchan starrers did not require such tactics. In fact, producers sold the film as soon as the shooting started. The zonal price included the super-

star's share as part of his fee. Those days have gone by when films were booked on a star's pull and banner. Like in the case of Subhash Ghai's *Saudagar* and

the Indo-Soviet movie, *Shikari*.

Everyone is waiting impatiently to find out how Bachchan starrers are received. Shashi Kapoor's Indo-Soviet production *Ajooba*, which has been delayed, comes at a time when Bachchan's image is still soiled in the public eye. Also looming large is his brother's alleged involvement and the Swiss property deals. Bachchan's protests have made matters worse.

However, if a film director manages to capture the fancy of cinegoers, it succeeds regardless of other factors. Also, Bachchan must live up to their illusions and resist from mouthing homilies on truth, justice and honesty, avoiding attack on politicians.

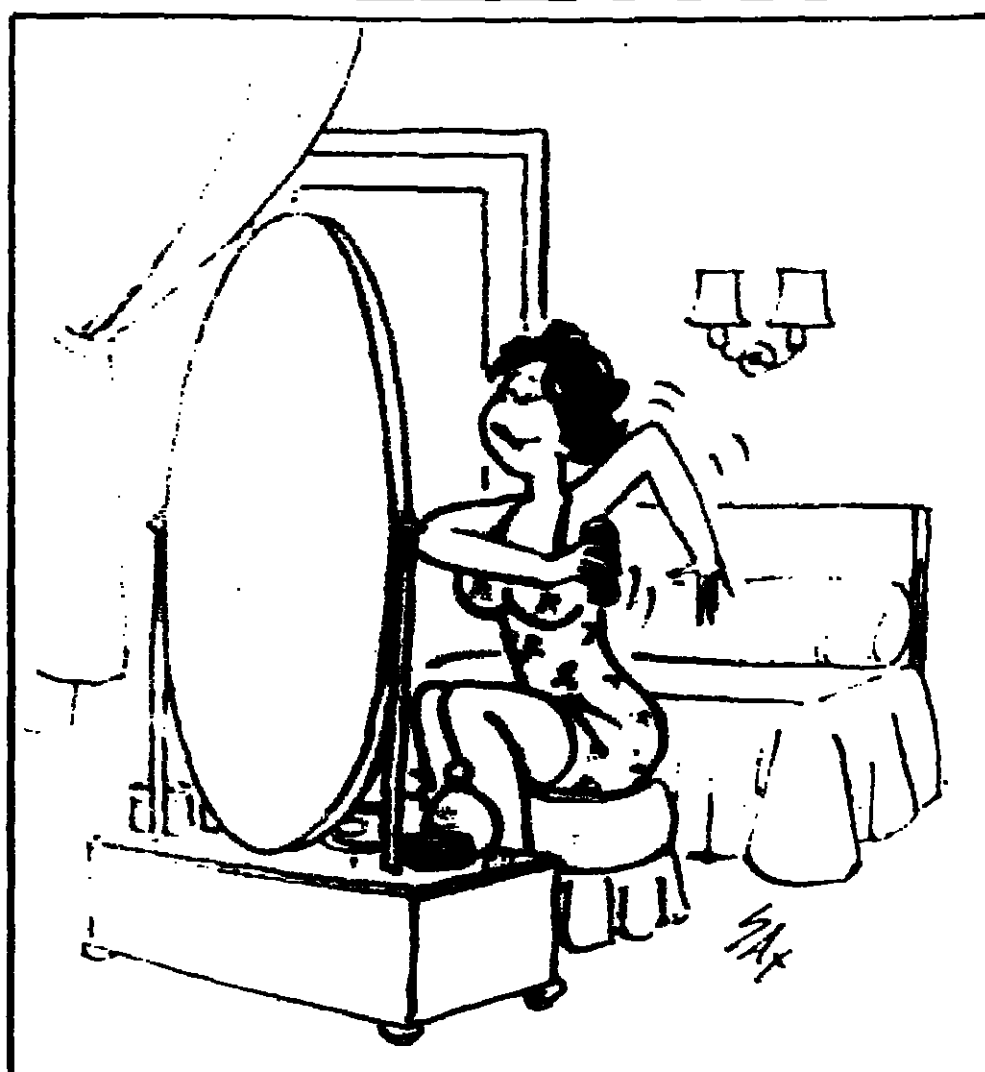
Ajooba is what you may describe as "an innocent film." Bachchan plays Ali, a lost prince of a fictitious kingdom known as Bahristan. Shammi Kapoor plays the king who yearns for a child. When his son is born, an Indian king (Dara Singh) and a wizard (Saeed Jaffrey) are invited for a ceremony. The evil minister (Amrish Puri) snatches the wizard's talisman to plot the child's death. The wizard is taken prisoner. The queen escapes with her son but the child is lost in a storm. He grows up in the home of a blacksmith.

In the meantime, the wizard's wife gives birth to a girl who grows up to be Dimple. Ali becomes a masked cavalier and helps people against the tyranny of the evil minister, whose daughter (Sonam) is in love with a potter. Ali helps the potter (Rishi Kapoor) win over his lady love (Sonam).

Dimple, after learning about her father's dilemma, goes to Bahristan, and is taken prisoner. Ali's mother is also captured. Ali eventually breaks the circle of evil — with the help of some magic.

A village drama of tyranny and revenge is rebashed in K.C. Bokadia's *Aaj Ka Arjun*. Amrish Puri, once again, plays the ruthless Thakur who usurps the property of the hapless peasants. When a peasant (Suresh Oberoi) refuses to give up his land, Puri's henchmen molest his wife (Preeti Sapra). Bhima (Bachchan) comes to her rescue. Jaya Prada falls in love with him. To complicate matters, Bhima's educated sister Radhika falls into a trap and marries the villain's son (Rishabh Shukla). She is driven out by husband and father-in-law. She dies leaving her son, who is looked after by Jaya. The villagers, under pressure, turn against Bhima and Jaya, who then take shelter in the home of a kind inspector (Anupam Kher). The child is kidnapped; the inspector killed. And it is time to settle scores and a blood-spilling climax.

Well, let's wait and see who scores a point: *Ajooba* or *Arjun*, or both.



Quiz

Are you a social hit or a miss?

By Judy Byrne

Everyone likes to be liked.

For some of us popularity is so important we would sell our grandmothers' pension books for it. For others, it would just be the icing on the cake if life panned out that way.

But how do you know? How can you tell if you are a social hit — or miss?

This quiz will help you find out. Just answer the questions below quite quickly, without too much reflection or contemplation.

- You are invited to a fancy dress party. Do you:
 - wear something that will be good for a laugh
 - wear something you know will look good in
 - ignore the fact that it is supposed to be fancy dress or
 - stay home?
- Your plans fall through and you are suddenly left with an expected free evening stretching ahead of you. Do you:
 - read or watch television
 - phone or call on a friend
 - go out somewhere
 - catch up on housework or
 - catch up on letters you owe?
- If you borrow money do you:
 - always pay it back
 - usually pay it back
 - usually pay it back — eventually
 - probably not pay it back or
 - not applicable. You don't borrow money?
- Do people come to your home without being invited or phoning you first:
 - often
 - once in a while
 - rarely or
 - never?
- Do you think deodorant is:
 - essential
 - essential in hot weather
 - optional or
 - strictly for whimps?
- On your birthday, do you usually have presents, cards or calls from:
 - lots of people
 - a few family and friends only
 - only people you remember to remind
 - only one person or
 - no one
- In a group at a party, do you find you do:
 - most of the talking
 - an average amount of talking
 - less talking than other people or
 - very little or no talking
- If someone plays a practical joke, do you:
 - laugh at it
 - endure it
 - ignore it or
 - avenge it
- Do you play practical jokes:
 - often
 - sometimes
 - rarely
 - only when you have to pay someone back for one or
 - never
- Do you go to the cinema or theatre or swimming on your own:
 - often
 - sometimes
 - rarely or
 - never
- Has someone other than your partner asked you if you would like to go on holiday with them:
 - in the last six months
 - in the last year
 - in the last five years
 - in the last ten years or
 - more than ten years ago or never?
- At school, were you picked for sports teams:
 - first, or among the first
 - towards the end or
 - last?
- If someone promises to ring you, do they:
 - ring you, usually
 - ring you, sometimes
 - ring you, rarely or
 - ring almost never?
- If you hear a good bit of gossip, do you:
 - enjoy passing it on
 - pass it on but feel a bit guilty about it
 - try to check it out before you repeat it
 - probably not pass it on or
 - definitely not pass it on?
- How often do you go out with a group of friends, somewhere like a concert or for a country walk or a day out at a theme park or resort:
 - about once a week
 - about once a month
 - once every few months
 - about once a year or
 - less than once a year or never?

HOW TO SCORE

	a	b	c	d	e
1.	15	10	5	0	-
2.	5	20	10	0	15
3.	20	10	5	0	15
4.	15	10	5	0	-
5.	15	10	5	0	-
6.	20	15	10	5	0
7.	15	10	5	0	-
8.	15	10	0	5	-
9.	0	5	10	15	20
10.	0	5	10	15	-
11.	20	15	10	5	0
12.	15	10	5	0	-
13.	15	10	5	0	-
14.	20	15	10	5	0
15.	20	15	10	5	0

WHAT YOUR SCORE MEANS

180 - 260:
You are very popular if you have answered all the questions truthfully. You mix easily and have a wide circle of friends and people find you fun to be with. Your relationships tend to be built to last.
But take care that being popular does not matter too much to you. Your score, especially if it was nearer the 260 than the 180 end of this category, also indicates that you try hard to make and keep friends.
If you try too hard, you could find it having the opposite effect.

90 - 175:
You are enough of a hit to satisfy you. Having lots of friends matters less to you than having a smaller number with whom you are compatible and feel very comfortable and relaxed.
Carry on as you are.

0 - 85:
You are rather a miss on the social scene. Which may, of course, be by choice. If you are happy as you are, don't bother to read on. Having a wide circle of friends is not compulsory. But if you feel you would like to be more of a hit but lack the social skills, re-reading the questions above and having a look at which questions scored highest might give you a few useful tips.

Mini Meet: Juhi Chawla

Male fans are shy

Is it not your misfortune that when your film succeeds, your hero Amir Khan gets all the credit?

Fan crazy for heroes is always more intense and open-hearted. For heroines, it is restrained. Male fans in India are a bit shy, and afraid of being misunderstood or manhandled. I see my success in letters... about 200 per day... which come to my house.

How do they get your address?
Some papers in Indian languages publish them along with star interviews. There are also film directories.

What kind of letters do they write?
Some flatter you for your beauty, some admire your acting or a particular style. And many, (giggles) ... ask for your hand in marriage.

How do you satisfy them?
With an autographed photo.
Have your parents left you because of rumours and scandals?

Not at all. I took a house in Versova to be near the shooting spots. From our city home, I had to travel 40 km everyday. You have not over-glamorised or over-exposed yourself. How, then, have you managed?

I don't need any god-fathering by any producer or hero. Nor has anyone come forward to do it. But glamour within limits has paid off.

Are daring dresses necessary?
A heroine can never be covered from head to foot. But why pick on actresses? Just look at the clothes of women from the high society in Bombay. We look orthodox.

What is the future of women in films and film world?
We are safe in the sense that no film can be made without a woman. Otherwise, women in films or elsewhere face the same problems. If we are not tough or determined, people are bound to harass or exploit us.

Star clips

Did Kishan Kanhaiya require any acting from anyone? Mind you, I am not making fun of Anil Kapoor.
Shatrughan Sinha

If a producer gives a star his favourite Chinese food, is he going to give a better shot?
Rishi Kapoor

Don't make me fight ten people. At the most I can manage two.
Aamir Khan

I did not fulfil my father's wish. He wanted me to become a professor.
Dharmendra



Amitabh made me give up cigarettes. Now how can I give him tips to look young and fit.
Jeetendra



Chawla: 'I see my success in letters'.

Behind the screen

● Mahesh Bhatt and Anupam Kher had a bitter quarrel over the climax scenes of *Ashiqui* and *Dil*. Bhatt claimed that this original climax in *Ashiqui* was pilfered by the *Dil* - (valas) who had shot and rejected two other sequences. The culprit who passed on the secret info was Kher, who saw a preview of Bhatt's film and attended the *Dil* filming. Now *Dil* being released first took the wind out of Bhatt's sails and made him a copy-cat. We say that all concerned should see Guru Dutt's *Mr & Mrs 55*. He did the airport climax first. And before him of course, the real Hollywood brain did it.

● Vinod Khanna took full advantage of his sudden marriage to go back to his usual tricks, of bunking the shootings, coming late, going away early and so on. The producers and directors also had to give in without a murmur, as it was the "noble" cause of a newly married couple. Only a unit

hand put it rightly: "Why these special favours? This is the man's third marriage."

● Mammoohan Desai nursing the wounds of his huge flops, keeps seeing *Maine Pyar Kiya* on video. He admires the heroine Bhagyashree and laments: "Why should she leave films? Tell me. Any reason. I am prepared to sign her for any amount if she works under my banner." Desai should learn that everyone does not answer the call of money, like him.

● Why was the title *Aaj Ka Arjun* preferred to the earlier one *Kaun Suna Fariyaad*? There are many versions. Amitabh says that his political opponents would have ridiculed him saying that in the new regime the tall hero is left shouting: "Who will listen to my grievances?" That would put him on the defensive. The distributors say that the title was like a helpless cry and who would ever

like a weak whimpering hero. The real reason is that TV serial *Mahabharat*, seen by millions, has popularised its hero Arjun. Now Amit wants to cash in by calling himself today's Arjun. And, as he himself, admits even his name in the film is not Arjun!

● A producer gave this full-page add in a trade weekly. "Dear Mr Sunjay Dutt, the film industry can survive for another hundred years provided there are a couple of more people like you around. Thank you." We add: the star system with all its evils can survive for two hundred years, provided there are some more producers like this one around.

● Prakash Mehra's condition after the big *Amitabh flops* can be realised from the fact that he is making a Marathi film, to benefit from the tax rebate.

Dear Junior readers,
If you are the kind who complains whenever you are told to eat your vegetables, start thinking about the benefits they provide and then decide whether it is worth complaining.
Vegetables contain the essential

amounts of vitamins we need to keep us healthy.

These are very different from each other in structure. But each vitamin is a substance that the body cannot manufacture, but must have. So a vitamin is essential for some vital

function of the body and must be supplied by food, mainly vegetables.

Vitamin A is essential for growth, for vision and for healthy skin and mucous membranes. Vitamin B makes proper use of carbohydrates and is required by the nerves. Vitamin

C prevents scurvy and is essential for healthy gums and teeth. Vitamin D prevents rickets.

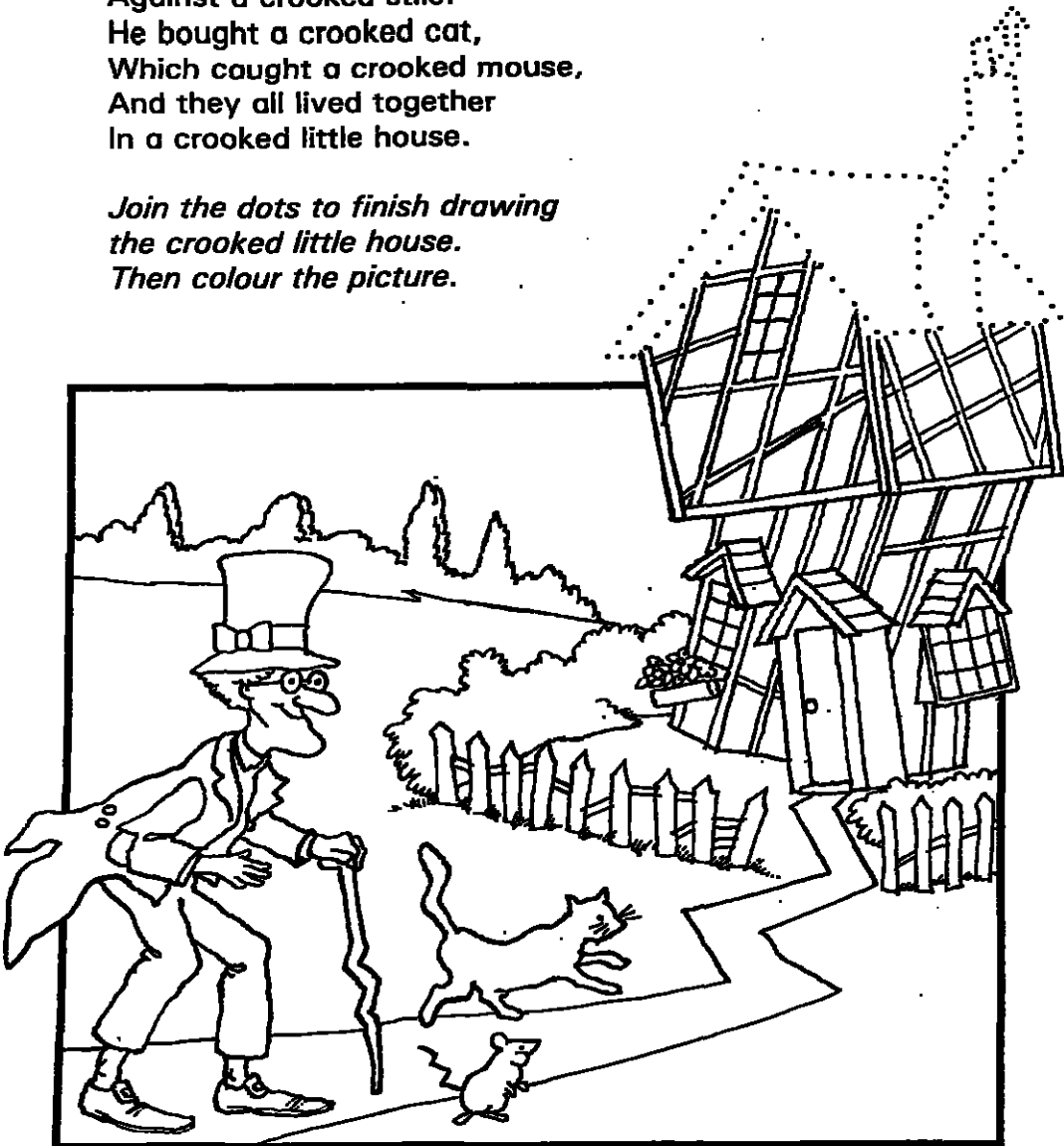
So taking this into consideration, it is easy to see why vegetables are a very important part of the diet.

Mona

Rhyme time

There was a crooked man,
And he walked a crooked mile.
He found a crooked sixpence
Against a crooked stile.
He bought a crooked cat,
Which caught a crooked mouse,
And they all lived together
In a crooked little house.

Join the dots to finish drawing the crooked little house.
Then colour the picture.



Firsts and lasts

Sir Isaac Newton was probably the greatest scientist the world has ever known. The legend of his discovery of gravity by watching an apple fall is one of the few legends that are true. But Newton left school as a teenager to follow his first choice of career, to be a farmer.

Laslo Biro invented the first ball-point pen that was successful. He was in fact a Hungarian hypnotist and not an inventor. In 1959 when the first throw-away bios were sold in the shops over 53 million were sold in the first year.

Frank Wooton was England's leading jockey from 1909 to 1912. He won his first race when he was only nine years old.

Amazing facts

Frederick the Great of Prussia used to drink coffee made with champagne.

Today half the total dead in Britain are cremated.

The coffins in which chiefs of the Wangata tribe of the Congo are buried, are carved in the shapes of men and women.

In 1973, a freak storm of thousands of small frogs hit the village of Brignoles in southern France.

A Stoke Newington dentist pulled out a tooth from a woman patient, and a centipede crawled out of it.

An oak tree in Florida, USA, has a palm tree growing from it.

In 1348, 88 cases of murder were recorded in Yorkshire. A modern equivalent would be around 10,000 a year.

Two American students played table tennis continuously for 36 hours.

A monument at Le Cailar, France, marks the grave of a bull who was noted for its bravery in the bullring.

The complete skin covering of the body measures about 20 square feet.

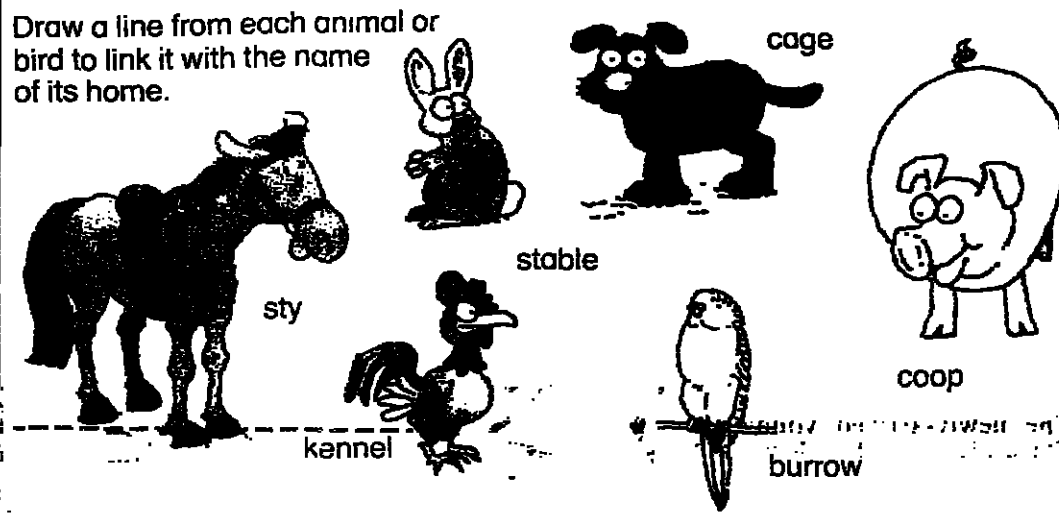
Teddy Bears were named after the American President, Theodore Roosevelt.

Charles II was nicknamed 'Old Rowley' after his favourite horse.

The cheetah is the fastest animal over a short distance. Up to 600 metres it can run at 113 kph.

Home sweet home

Draw a line from each animal or bird to link it with the name of its home.



Baby of the week



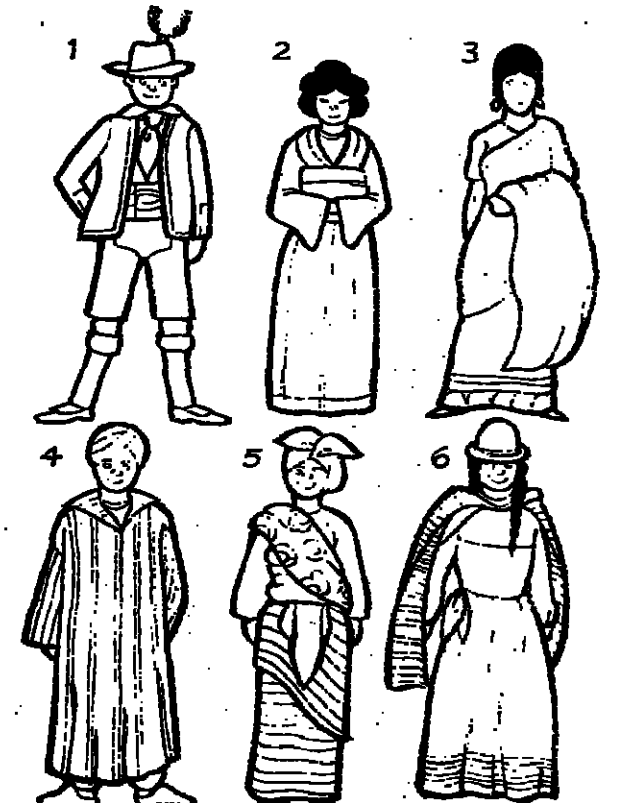
Aisha Ali Al Misaleem enjoys playing and laughing. Her family will be surprising her with loads of toys when she celebrates her first birthday early next month.

Name the Continents...

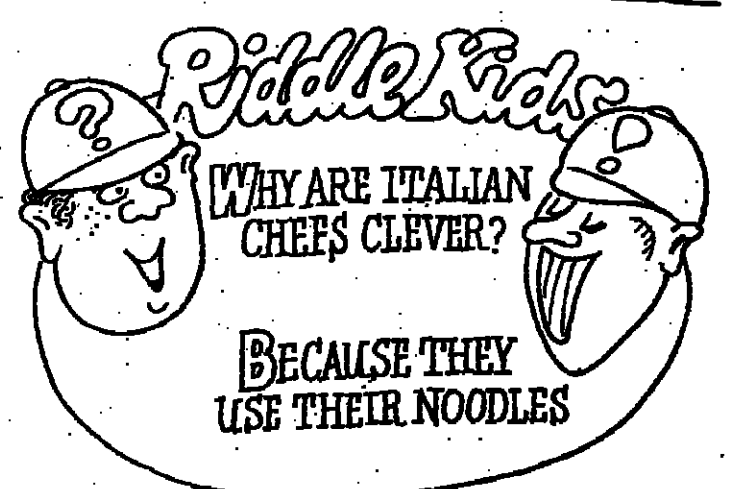


... from the silhouettes.

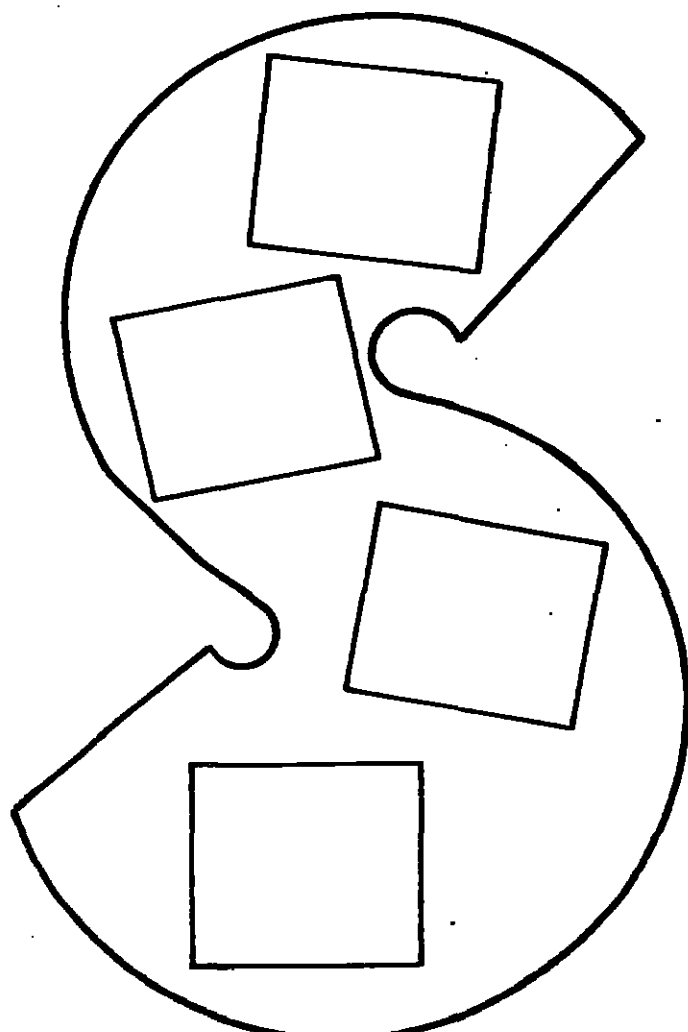
National Costumes



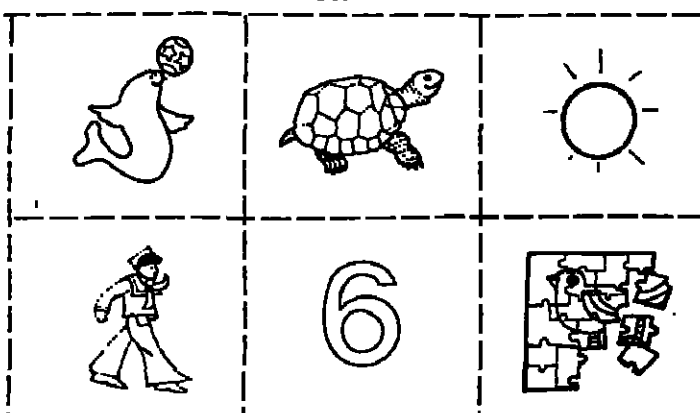
To which countries do these national costumes belong?



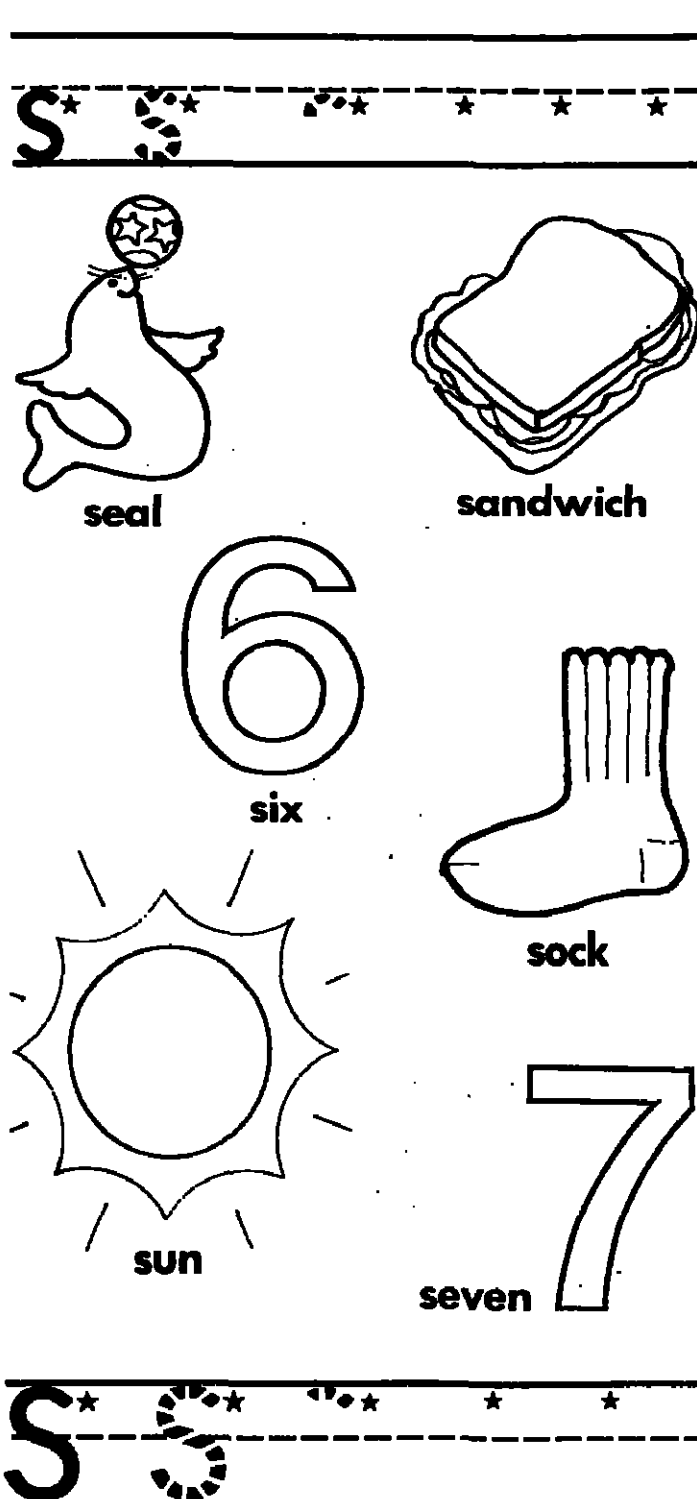
Cut out pictures of things that begin with s.
Paste them on the letter.



Skills: Sound-letter association and letter-sound discrimination.
Cut on the dotted lines.



This is an s.
Here are some pictures of words that begin with s. Point to each picture. Say the words. Color the pictures. Trace the letter s with a pencil.



Subtract the fractions and write the correct answer in the space provided.

A. $\frac{5}{7} - \frac{2}{7} = \frac{\quad}{7}$	L. $\frac{6}{10} - \frac{1}{10} = \frac{\quad}{10}$
B. $\frac{11}{18} - \frac{3}{18} = \frac{\quad}{18}$	M. $\frac{7}{12} - \frac{6}{12} = \frac{\quad}{12}$
C. $\frac{9}{15} - \frac{3}{15} = \frac{\quad}{15}$	N. $\frac{23}{48} - \frac{9}{48} = \frac{\quad}{48}$
D. $\frac{37}{52} - \frac{26}{52} = \frac{\quad}{52}$	O. $\frac{19}{37} - \frac{11}{37} = \frac{\quad}{37}$
E. $\frac{62}{96} - \frac{23}{96} = \frac{\quad}{96}$	P. $\frac{42}{68} - \frac{28}{68} = \frac{\quad}{68}$
F. $\frac{54}{61} - \frac{17}{61} = \frac{\quad}{61}$	Q. $\frac{8}{9} - \frac{2}{9} = \frac{\quad}{9}$
G. $\frac{7}{8} - \frac{3}{8} = \frac{\quad}{8}$	R. $\frac{9}{13} - \frac{2}{13} = \frac{\quad}{13}$
H. $\frac{13}{14} - \frac{4}{14} = \frac{\quad}{14}$	S. $\frac{15}{16} - \frac{12}{16} = \frac{\quad}{16}$
I. $\frac{17}{21} - \frac{4}{21} = \frac{\quad}{21}$	T. $\frac{31}{43} - \frac{19}{43} = \frac{\quad}{43}$
J. $\frac{57}{73} - \frac{25}{73} = \frac{\quad}{73}$	U. $\frac{18}{25} - \frac{4}{25} = \frac{\quad}{25}$
K. $\frac{23}{34} - \frac{12}{34} = \frac{\quad}{34}$	V. $\frac{42}{56} - \frac{38}{56} = \frac{\quad}{56}$

The Charcoal-Burner



The charcoal-burner has tales to tell.
He lives in the Forest,
Alone in the Forest;
He sits in the Forest,
Alone in the Forest.
And the sun comes slanting between the trees,
And rabbits come up, and they give him good-morning,
And rabbits come up and say, "Beautiful morning" ...
And the moon swings clear of the tall black trees,
And owls fly over and wish him good-night,
Quietly over to wish him good-night ...

And he sits and thinks of the things they know,
He and the Forest, alone together -
The springs that come and the summers that go,
Autumn dew on bracken and heather,
The drip of the Forest beneath the snow ...

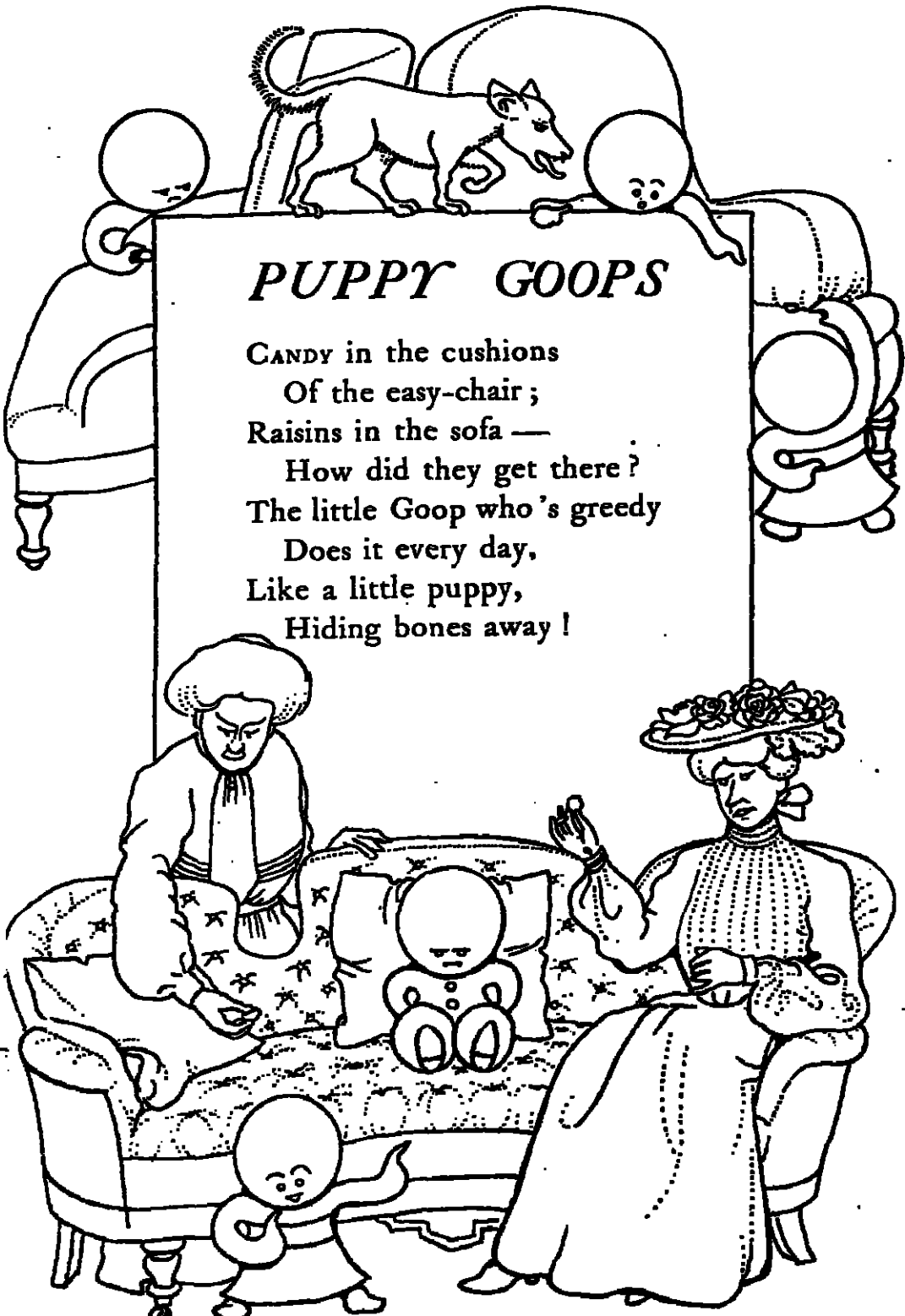
All the things they have seen,
All the things they have heard:
An April sky swept clean and the song of a bird ...



Oh, the charcoal-burner has tales to tell!
And he lives in the Forest and knows us well.



The Goops Again



PUPPY GOOPS

CANDY in the cushions
Of the easy-chair;
Raisins in the sofa —
How did they get there?
The little Goop who's greedy
Does it every day,
Like a little puppy,
Hiding bones away!

Just for laughs!

Mr and Mrs Thorne had just reached the airport in the nick of time to catch the plane for their fortnight's holiday in Majorca. 'I wish we'd brought the piano with us,' said Mr Thorne.
'What on earth for?' asked his wife.
'I've left the tickets on it!'

'And on this tour, ladies and gentlemen,' explained the guide, 'we shall be going where the hand of man has never set foot!'

Heavily encumbered with bags and cases, the would-be passenger hurtled across the station concourse, through the barrier and on to the platform — just in time to see his train pulling out. As he stood there, puffing and panting, with sweat streaming down his reddened face, a sympathetic porter said to him, 'Just missed your train, sir?'

'No, you fool,' fumed the man. 'I didn't like the look of it so I chased it out of the station!'

In China,' said the returned tourist, 'I saw a woman hanging from a tree.'
'Shanghai?'

'No, about six foot off the ground.'

'I come from California.'
'Oh, nice to meet you. I've enjoyed your Syrup of Figs for years.'

'Ah'm frae Glasgae,' said the Scot.

'Are you, now?' replied the Cockney. 'Jus' dahn' ere ter learn the langwidge, are yer?'

'What do you think of this suit? I had it made in Hong Kong.'
'Very nice'. But what's that hump on the back?'

'Oh, that's the tailor. He's still working on it.'

'The newly-arrived young Chinese lad from Hong Kong rang his brother who was living in Manchester. The young man was speaking in laborious English when his brother interrupted him, saying, "Why don't you speak in Chinese?"

'Oh,' said the newcomer, 'I didn't know English telephones could speak Chinese!'

Count on 12

Use an abacus or rods to help you.

$$25 + 12 = 37$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2(10) + 5 \rightarrow 25 \\ \text{add } 1(10) + 2 \rightarrow 12 \\ \hline 37 \end{array}$$

Tens	Units
2	5
3	7

$$25 + 12 = \square$$

$$4 + 12 = \square$$

$$31 + 12 = \square$$

$$10 + 12 = \square$$

$$56 + 12 = \square$$

$$41 + 12 = \square$$

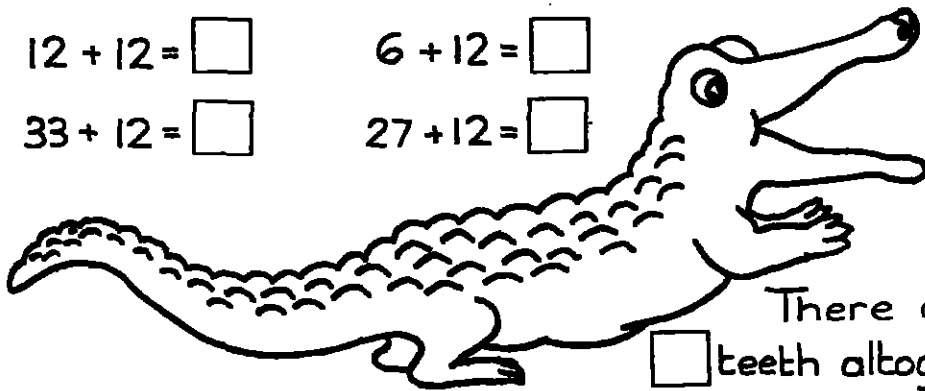
$$12 + 12 = \square$$

$$6 + 12 = \square$$

$$33 + 12 = \square$$

$$27 + 12 = \square$$

Give the crocodile 12 teeth on his top jaw, and 12 teeth on his bottom jaw.

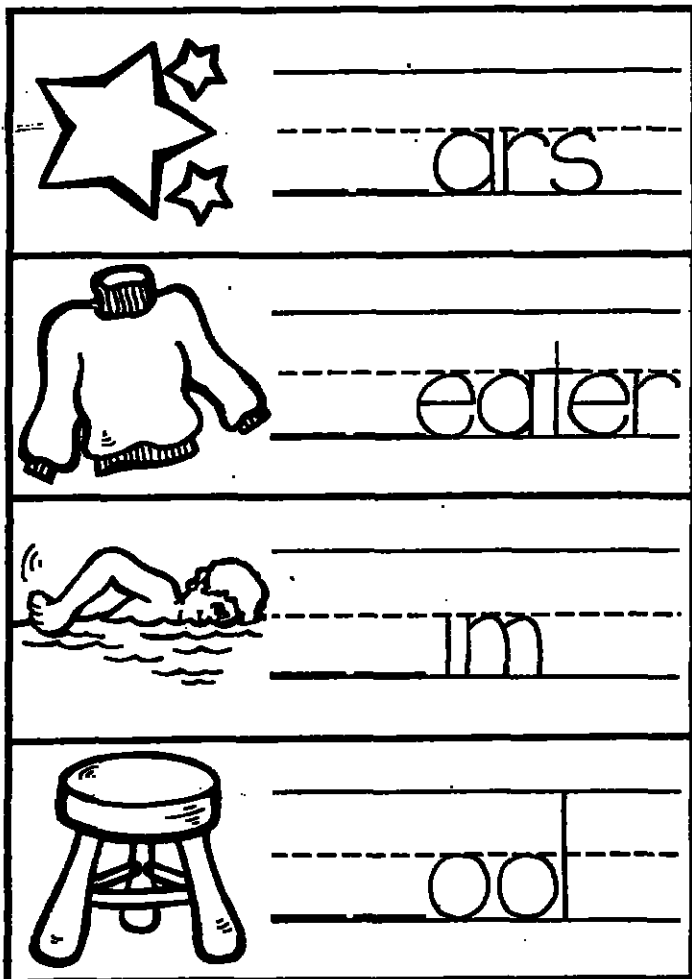


There are teeth altogether.

Count on in twelves.

Use an abacus, rods or a number square to help you. $0 \rightarrow \square \rightarrow$

Print the two-letter blend you hear at the beginning of the words. Color the pictures.



Happy birthday



Farhan Azeem turned 3 recently.



Faisal Azeem turned 6 recently.



Cathylee Fernandes turned 6 on July 24.



Arafat Azeem turned 11 recently.



Mohammed Sherifdeen turns 5 on July 27.



Elena Dulay on July 18.

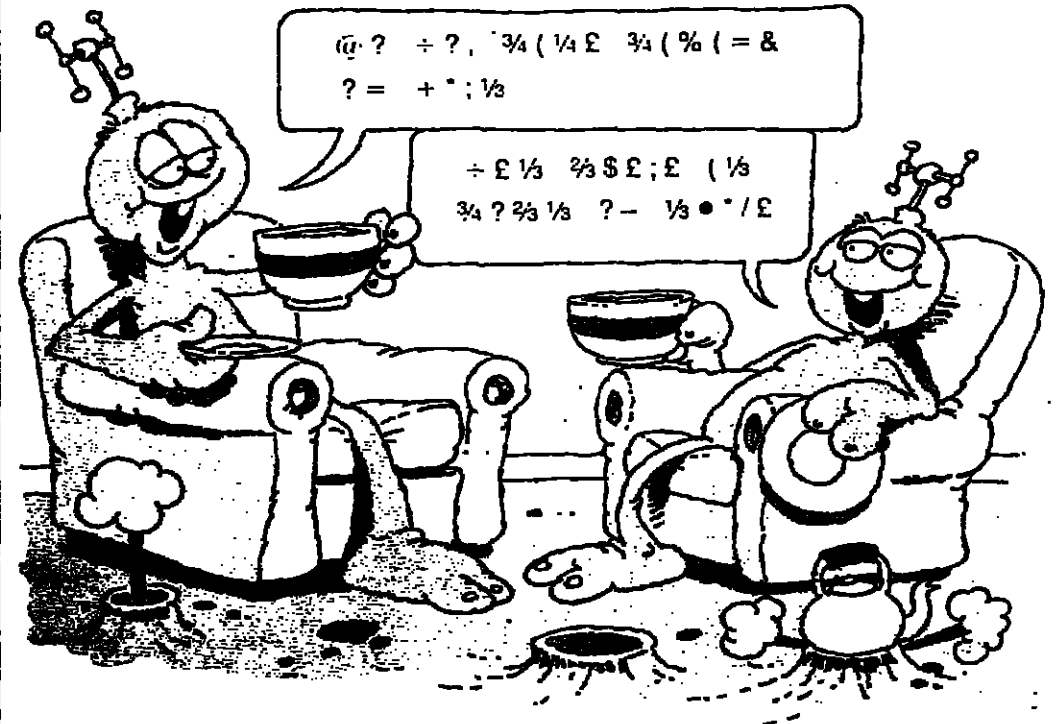
Crack the code

These Martians talk like typewriters! Using the code below, can you work out what they are saying?

A = .	K = 1/4	U = .
B = "	L = 3/4	V = %
C = /	M = +	W = 1/2
D = //	N = =	X = !
E = £	O = ?	Y = -
F = -	P = :	Z = 5%
G = &	Q = :	
H = \$	R = 1/3	
I = (S = 1/2	
J =)	T = 3%	

WHY DID THE MARTIAN NEED A HANDKERCHIEF?

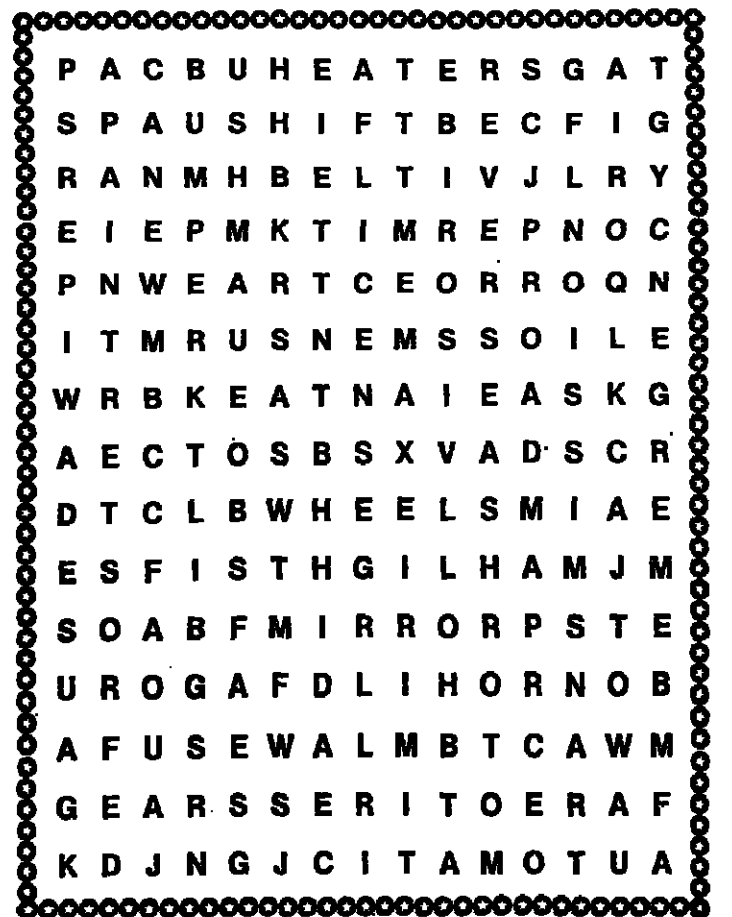
BECAUSE HE HAD A CODE IN THE DOSE!



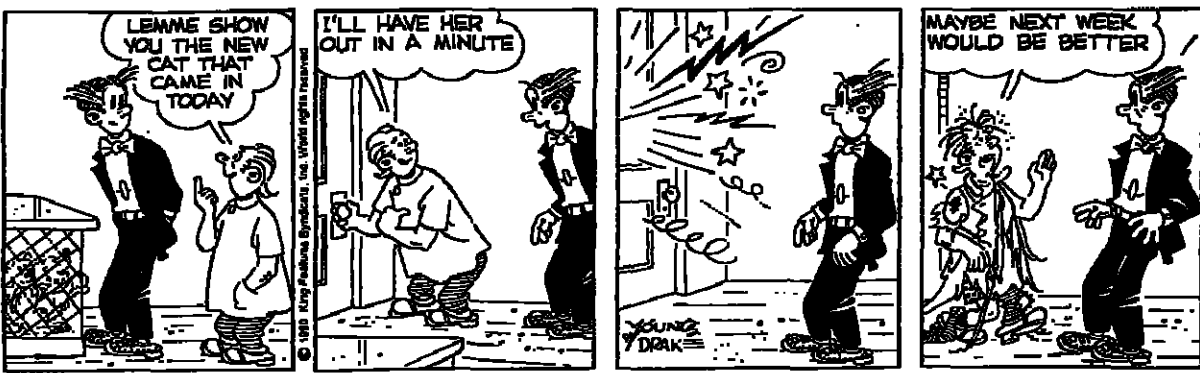
YOU "AUTO" KNOW

The transmission, tires, motor. There's so much to know about the workings of an automobile. If you're due for a trip to the mechanic, perhaps you can use our puzzle as a check list. Hope everything is running well.

AIR	FUSE	LIGHTS	REVERSE	TRAFFIC
AUTOMATIC	GAS	LOAN	RIM	TRANSMISSION
BELT	GEARS	MAT	ROAD MAP	USED
BRAKE	HEATER	MIRROR	SHIFT	WEAR
BUMPER	HORN	MOTOR	STEER	WHEELS
DEFROSTER	HUBCAP	NEW	TAGS	WIPERS
EMERGENCY	JACK	OIL	TEST	VISOR
EXAM	LAW	PAINT	TIRES	
FAN	LICENSE	PERMIT	TOW	



BLONDIE



LAGARTHE HORRIBLE



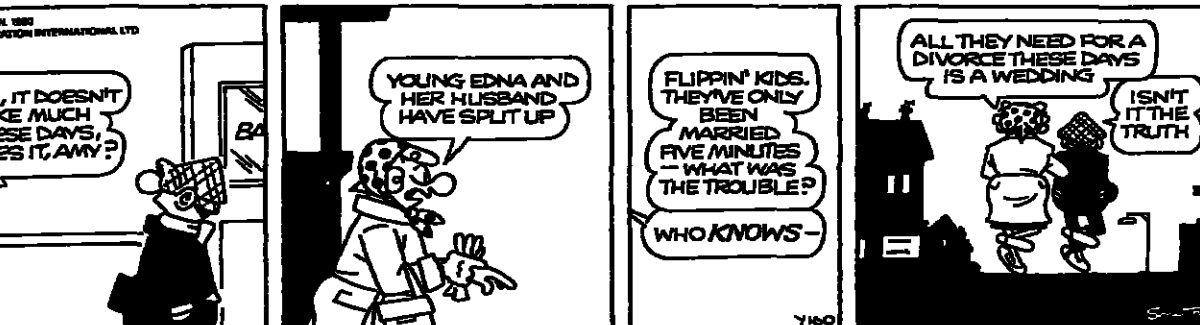
AGATHA CRUMM



DEE-DEE DUCK



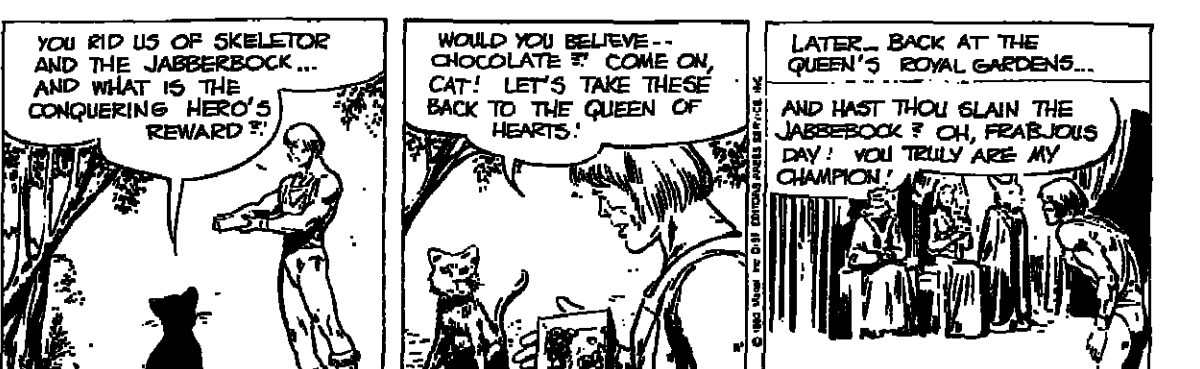
ANDY CAPP



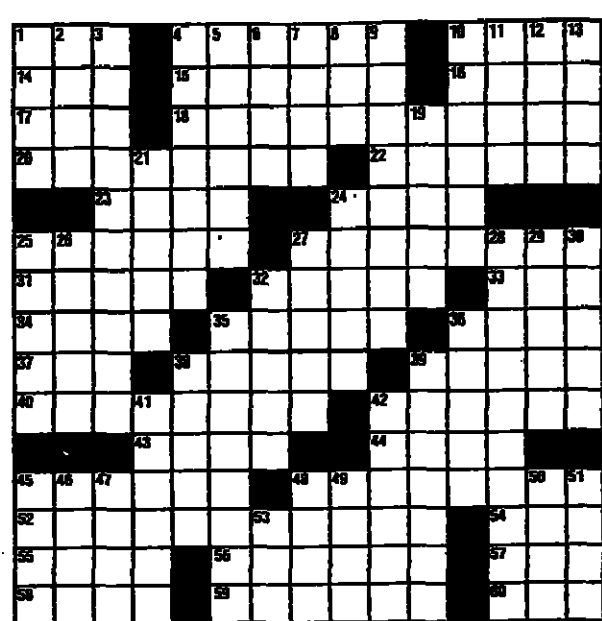
B.C. - By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN - By G. Fawcett & S. S. S.



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
1. Alias, in Augsburg
 4. Jamaican music
 10. Lily of opera fame
 14. Furrow maker
 15. Beethoven's Third
 16. "Garfield" pooch
 17. Memorabilia
 18. Foundation
 20. Places for slippers
 22. Bride's married attendant
 23. Past due
 24. Book
 25. Sketched after
 27. Turned over a new leaf
 31. De Mille or Moorehead
 32. Earthenware from Holland
 33. Biblical lion
 34. Clark's colleague
 35. Removes rind
 36. Storage areas
 37. Shorebird
 38. "Wow!"
 39. Lose control
 40. Annie and Andy, e.g.
 42. Gossamer's posts?
 43. Balin and Claire
 44. Walesa of Poland
 45. Tad
 48. Ocean routes
 52. Night club expense
 54. NBA pro
 55. Cupid
 56. TV sound equipment
- DOWN**
1. Melville's whaler
 2. Pine growth
 3. Playing the lead
 4. Tells
 5. Ground down
 6. Skirt insert
 7. Cotton machines
 8. Koufax was one
 9. Winter wear
 10. Peter Rabbit's creator
 11. Bouquet
 12. Senora's child
 13. Spotted
 19. Wooden shoe
 21. Retail events
 24. Theo of "Kojak"
 25. Old German
 26. Plato shopped here
 27. Film segments
 28. Best opportunity
 29. Pyle or Kovacs
 30. Platters
 32. Small valleys
 35. Martian landscape
 36. Chemin-de-fer challenge
 38. Hopeless case
 39. Noble woman
 41. Redirect
 42. Wine vessel
 45. Use radar
 46. Plate at Farway
 47. Promise
 48. Le Marquis de
 49. Buffalo's lake
 50. Actor Bruce
 51. Kind of poker
 53. Wallace's Ben

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BLAIR CLARA GORI
GRIFF HAREM ALLIT
SIR FRANCIS DRAKE
CLAD LINKS ELVER
LACY HONT
REPOSE DECHOE
ALLA ISLET JRR
JUAN PONCE DE LEON
ADZ ALLAN URNS
HEADGEAR UPROOT
ROSY KNEE
AHEAD BIBE PEW
GASPARDEPORTOLA
RITE AVAIL ERHS
AGED MIDST LEAH

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OREN SHAG

ELIMINATE WHAT YOU CAN

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

♠ Q 4 3
♥ A K 8 7
♦ J 10 7 6
♣ K 9

WEST

♠ A K 10 8
♥ 4 2
♦ K Q 3
♣ Q J 3 2

EAST

♠ 9 7 5
♥ 6 5 3
♦ 5 4 2
♣ 10 8 6 5

SOUTH

♠ J 6 2
♥ Q J 10 9
♦ A 9 8
♣ A 7 4

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 1 ♥ Dbl

2 ♥ Pass 4 ♥ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠

We have repeatedly stressed that the secret of winning bridge is to search for that little extra percentage which enables you to utilize your assets to best advantage. Can you find the edge on this hand?

Because of South's flat distribution, the jump to four hearts is a little aggressive. However, the diamond fit improves South's holding, and the two aces are undervalued in

the point count, so we won't belabor the issue.

West started with the ace, king and another spade, and declarer was relieved when East did not ruff the third round. The contract seemed to hinge on finding East with one of the two missing diamond honors. In view of the auction, though, there was a distinct possibility that West held both the king and queen of diamonds. However, the double also meant that West was likely to be short in hearts, and that presented declarer with an additional chance.

After drawing only two rounds of trumps with the queen and jack, declarer cashed the king and ace of clubs and ruffed a club. Then a diamond was led to South's eight.

West won the queen and, had that defender been able to exit with a trump, declarer would have had to fall back on another diamond finesse. As the cards lay, however, West was endplayed. A diamond return would be into declarer's tenace, so West tried a club. That proved to be no better. Declarer ruffed in dummy while discarding a diamond from hand, then scored the last three tricks with the ace of diamonds and two winning trumps.



You may have some good luck and you would do better to rely on shrewd judgment. If you expect other to do what you would like you will be disappointed. There will be delays in the past, try to allow for them. Be sensible.



A setback should not be allowed to discourage you altogether. Your lucky numbers are 6 and 18. Watch out for mistakes not those made by you but also those made by others. And check your results, do not rely too much on calculators and the like. Be sincere.



What you had thought would prove to be easy will in fact turn out to be very difficult. Never mind, just persevere and keep your mind on what you are doing. This is not a good time to take any undue risks even if the rewards are high - assuming that you have lots of luck.



Beware of "bargains" that you do not need and are therefore nothing of the kind where you are concerned. Only when you have done what must be done should you proceed what you like doing. Make sure your facts are relevant and not out of date. Be relevant.



Your appetite will be good, but do not eat more than you know you should. Take an opportunity to give your partner a pleasant surprise. Everything is taking that much longer so concentrate on what has to be done. Be reliable.



You will have to do something in respect of which you are a little out of practice. However persevere and you will soon get back into your stride. Do not expect everyone to agree with you. Be reasonable.



You will tend to get into a muddle by confusing what you would like to be with what is. Make sure you do all you can to avoid falling into a trap. Do not let a friend of yours down. Be tolerant.



You are too old to learn only when you stop making the effort to do so. Do not think that calculators are infallible, if the results do not seem to make sense they could well be wrong. Try to take a disappointment in your stride. Be consistent.



There is a tendency towards stomach upsets so take even more care than usual about what you eat. You will have an opportunity to do what you like doing but must not neglect what has to be done. Do not lose the courage of your convictions. Be prompt.



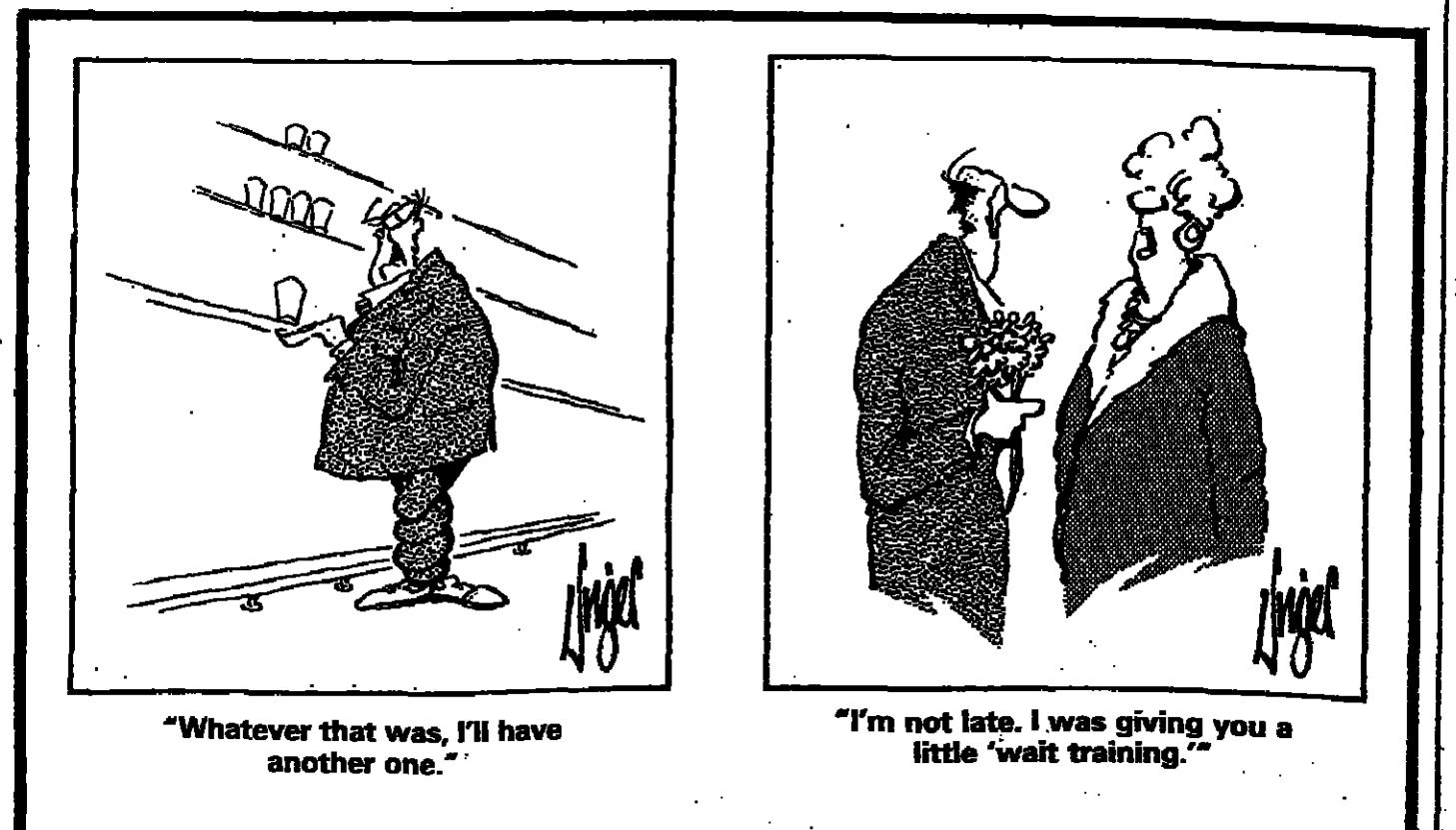
Learning to use a computer will stand you in good stead - no need to go into programming if you do not wish. Make sure you do not spend more than you earn just now. Do not promise more than you are sure you can perform. Be frank.



Not everything will be to your liking but try to make the most of what is. Maintaining a sensible weight is far more desirable than periodic crash diets. Treat an injury or it will become much more serious. Be optimistic.



The more you rely on yourself the better off you are. You will have to deal with some rather unusual factors and should "play it safe." Stick to your principles without being dogmatic. Be generous.



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Asahifuji promoted to top rank of sumo wrestlers

TOKYO, July 25, (AP): Asahifuji, a long-time sumo contender and winner of the recent Nagoya Grand Sumo Tournament, was promoted to the 2,000-year-old sport's highest rank, sumo officials said today.

In a short ceremony in Asahifuji's

training stable in Nagoya, central Japan, two members of the Japan Sumo Association informed Asahifuji of their decision to make him Japan's 63rd Yokozuna, or grand champion.

"In order not to embarrass the name of Yokozuna, I will muster all my stren-

gth, make my best effort, pay attention to my health and work toward the perfection of mind and body," he said, upon receiving the new rank.

The 30-year-old wrestler won the championship in the Nagoya Grand Sumo Tournament, which ended Sun-

day, with a 14-1 record. He also won the previous tournament 14-1.

Promotion to Yokozuna is generally based on Ozeki's (champion's) scores in the three previous tournaments. High scores combined with tournament victories are usually enough to

assure promotion, but the association also looks for spiritual qualities, such as dignity, which it says Yokozunas must possess.

Asahifuji's ascent through the numerous divisions and ranks in sumo was unusually long.

Japanese buys colt for \$2.9 m

LEXINGTON, Kentucky, July 25, (Reuters): The son of American champion Seattle Slew and half-brother to classic winner Summer Squall sold for \$2.9 million yesterday to lead the two-day Keeneland July Selected Yearling Sale.

Although four horses during the second session each sold for \$2 million or more — the highest price on Monday was \$1.85 million — the average for America's prime sale of young racing prospects was down 11 per cent overall from a year ago.

American buyers were largely out-gunned by foreigners.

The sales-topping Seattle Slew colt was purchased by the British Bloodstock Agency of Ireland on behalf of Tomonori Tsurumaki of Japan. A spokesman for Tsurumaki said the colt will remain in the United States for his racing career.

This was the second straight year that a Japanese buyer has left this sale with the most expensive purchase. Last year, Zenya Yoshida paid \$2.8 million for the last yearling by the now-retired Northern Dancer.

Tsurumaki also spent \$2 million yesterday for a Fappiano colt who is a full brother to the stakes-winning filly Tappiano. During Tuesday's second session, 121 thoroughbreds sold for \$47.8 million total.

The average price was \$395,826, down 9.8 per cent from the year earlier session. For the two days, 234 horses sold for \$82.3 million, an average of \$352,009 down from last year's \$395,374 average.

Despite those figures, sales director W. Rogers Beasley was not overly concerned by the decline, which followed a modest increase in average sales prices at the 1989 sale.

"I'm not disappointed at all with that. You're selling horses for \$2.9 million, I don't think you can say it's disappointing," he said.

Beasley said he had expected more participation from American buyers, who have stayed away from this sale in the past because of the high average prices being paid by Arab, European and Japanese buyers.

Weakened
He said he felt the middle market of horses going for \$100,000 to \$500,000 was weakened by that lack of participation.

William Farish of Lane's End Farm, which consigned the top-priced colt, agreed with that assessment.

"People have been here but the horses that they've liked, they just haven't been able to buy, because the Arabs and the Japanese have been too aggressive," he said.

Farish, who was the co-breeder of Summer Squall and sold him for \$300,000 two years ago at Keeneland, said he was surprised by the strong prices paid for offspring of Seattle Slew and Fappiano, in large part because they have not appealed to the free-spending Arab buyers.

In the past the Maktroums have favoured the Nougats Dances line, which has been highly successful in European racing.

Even D. Wayne Lukas, who for years has been the most prominent American buyer at Keeneland, was outgunned by overseas buyers this year.

Lukas said he was the underbidder on half of a dozen top-priced horses on Tuesday, including the sales top-

per. "We were getting a little frustrated," said Lukas of his inability to buy a top colt at this sale.

Cheers went up from the sales pavilion crowd when he was finally able to purchase for \$2.1 million a Secretariat filly who is a full sibling to graded stakes winners Pancho Villa and Terlingua, who were both trained by Lukas.

"It was kind of exciting to buy her, because the family has been so great to me. On my scale of one to 10, this filly was a nine-plus or a ten-minus. Pancho Villa and Terlingua were both eights," said Lukas.

Spain move into 2nd round

Sanchez and Martinez score easy wins



Sanchez thrashed Kolesi

NORCROSS, Georgia, July 25, (AP): Arantxa Sanchez and Conchita Martinez lost just five games each in their singles matches yesterday to lead second-seeded Spain to a 2-1 first round victory over Canada in the Federation Cup.

Sanchez beat Helen Kolesi 6-3, 6-2, and Martinez rolled over Jill Hetherington to clinch the match for Spain, seeded behind the United States. In the meaningless doubles match, Martinez and 17-year-old Pilar Perez lost 5-7, 6-2, 6-2 to Hetherington and Rene Simpson.

Spain, which lost last year's Federation Cup final to the United States in Tokyo, led a parade of favoured teams into the second round of the tournament, which is the women's tennis equivalent of the Davis Cup.

Despite the easy victory, Sanchez, fresh from her first grass court triumph at the Virginia Slims tournament in Newport,

Rhode Island, Sunday, suffered from heat illness late in her match, which was played in 90-degree temperature on hard courts.

"In the last two games, she was shivering and she had goose bumps," said Maria-Jose Pascual, the Spanish Federation Cup team manager.

With the seeded teams all winning easily, the day's drama was left to a handful of matches between unseeded teams played on the outer courts of the Peachtree World of Tennis.

Switzerland's Emanuela Zardo staged the comeback of the day, dispatching Manon Bollegraf of the Netherlands 6-7 (5-7), 7-5, 6-2 in a 3 hour, 20 minute baseline battle. The Netherlands won the match, however, 2-1.

Israel's Yael Segal, an 18-year-old ranked 241 in the world, rallied from a 5-0 deficit in the third set to match with Denmark's Tine Scheuer-Larsen

before tiring in the hot sun and losing 6-2, 3-6, 7-5.

Drained by the length of the singles match, Scheuer-Larsen then teamed with Sofie Albinus in the deciding doubles match, losing quickly to the Israeli team of Ilana Berger and Limor Zaltz 6-2, 6-3.

The Soviet Union, seeded No. 4, got singles victories from Natalia Zvereva and Lella Meskhi to beat Brazil 3-0, while Natalie Tauziat and Julie Halard led fifth-seeded France to a 3-0 win over Taiwan.

West Germany, the eight-seeded team, parlayed singles victories by Claudia Porwick and 15-year-old Anke Huber into a 2-1 win over Argentina.

Other first-round winners included Great Britain, New Zealand and Hong Kong.

Paulette Moreno, ranked just No. 315, staged the day's biggest upset, routing Hungarian No. 1 Andrea Temesvari 6-0, 6-1 in just 43 minutes.



Berger defeated Shiras

Connell and Berger outlast opponents

TORONTO, July 25, (AP): Canada's Grant Connell, two points away from defeat, topped Kelly Evernden of New Zealand in a third-set tiebreaker last night in the first round of the \$1.5 million Players International Tennis Tournament.

Connell had Evernden at 6-3 in the tiebreaker, when a freakish sudden downpour stopped play. After a brief delay, Connell closed out the match 6-1, 4-6, 7-6 (7-4).

He was to face third-seed John McEnroe of the United States today in the second round.

Connell and doubles partner Glenn Michibata, the top-seeded team, will also meet McEnroe and Australian Mark Woodforde in the second round of that competition.

"I've always wanted to play him or Jimmy Connors," Connell said.

"I'm really enjoying tennis right now. I just love being on the court." In other action yesterday, fourth-seed Jay Berger of the United States defeated Lefi Shiras 6-2, 6-4, in the second round. Shiras is an American living in Toronto.

"Berger's the Pete Rose of tennis — he gives 110 per cent all the time and he wins on grit and hustle," Shiras said.

Learned
Exhausted from constant work in the first half of the year, Berger took off after the French Open, skipping Wimbledon. He fished. He played golf. He just hung around. It was therapeutic.

"I learned just to play the tournaments you really want to play, because if you're not healthy you're not going to play well," said Berger, who cranked up in the quarterfinals of the US Open last year and had to withdraw.

"Right now I'm really hungry because I haven't played a lot." Other seeds also persevered. No. 14 Jean Fleuriat eliminated Glen Michibata 7-6 (7-5), 6-2. No. 10 Jim Grabb ousted Udo Riglewski of West Germany 6-4, 7-6 (7-4), and No. 16 Mark Kratzmann of Australia defeated Simon Youl 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Connell was down 0-30 and 4-5 in the third set before he came back to break Evernden.

England crash to another defeat

MENDOZA, Argentina, July 25, (Reuters): England crashed to their third rugby union defeat in four matches of an Argentine tour yesterday when a Cuyo regional side converted a last minute try to win 22-21.

Playing on a clear, sunny day at a soccer stadium with 8,500 spectators in Mendoza, 1,100 km (690 miles) west of Buenos Aires, the tourists failed to overcome a team drawn from a league with seven clubs and 3,000 players.

England had the upper hand in the second half, after trailing 13-9 at halftime. But in the final minutes their defence cracked to Cuyo.

Converted
Number eight Marcos Baec broke away from a seven-yard scrum and passed the ball to flanker Miguel Bertrano, who scored the try that flyhalf Gabriel Filizzola converted for the match.

England's forwards dominated the scrums and the line-outs but the backs could not pierce Cuyo's defence. All the tourists' points came from penalties by Simon Hodgkinson, a fullback who was tried out as a flyhalf.

Besides missing two penalties which could have given his team a victory, Hodgkinson lacked decision when passing the ball out to the backs.

"The team showed great flaws in handling the ball and lacked resources to overcome the pressure posed by the local team," England manager Geoff Cooke told reporters after the match.

Cooke said he was worried about England's performance. The team, which has yet to play two Tests against the Argentine "Pumas," contains about half the squad which were runners-up to Scotland in the latest Five Nations tournament.

England lost the first match of seven in the tour against club champions Banco Nacion. They squeezed a win against regional champions Tucuman in the next one but fell to a Buenos Aires side on Saturday.

Besides the Tests on July 28 and August 4, England are due to play a Cordoba regional side on July 31.

Two forwards who will probably play for the Pumas in the first test on Saturday made the winning play for Cuyo.



England's N.G. Skinner (centre) is tackled by a Cuyo player. (Reuters wirephoto)

Teams:
England — John Lilley; Paul Hull, Graham Childs, John Buckton, Tony Underwood; Simon Hodgkinson, Richard Hill; Time Rodber, Richard Robinson, Michael Skinner; Matt Poole, Robert Kimmins; John Probyn, Brian Moore, Mark Linnet.

Cuyo — Francisco Lola; Matias Robi, Diego Carbonell, Carlos Cipitelli, Emilio Saurina; Gabriel Filizzola, Agustín Orrio; Marcos Baec, Alejandro Filizzola, Miguel Bertrano; Pablo Pascual, Sergio Gomez; Jorge Acevedo, Alberto Gutierrez, Federico Mendez.

IBM pulls ads from golf event

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama, July 25, (AP): IBM will not run television ads during the US PGA Championship next month because of racial exclusion in the membership of the all-white Shoal Creek Country club, site of the golf tournament, an IBM official said.

Officials with the club, located in Shelby County near Birmingham, said it does not have any policy barring blacks from membership and that blacks have been guests. But the racial practices of the country club became the subject of widespread news reports when the club's founder, Hall Thompson, told the Birmingham Post-Herald the club would not be pressured into accepting blacks.

Thompson later said he was quoted out of context and apologized to those he offended.

Sixers name Shue general manager

PHILADELPHIA, July 25, (AP): Gene Shue, the fourth winningest coach in National Basketball Association history and a former coach and player of the 76ers, was named the Philadelphia team's general manager yesterday.

Shue was given a two-year contract. No terms were released. Shue's teams won 784 games in his 23 seasons as an NBA head coach. He, Bill Fitch, Don Nelson and Cotton Fittsimmons are the only coaches in League history named Coach of the Year twice.

"I think we're very fortunate to have a man like Gene available for this job," said owner Harold Katz. "After meeting all the candidates, I felt that Gene's

experience and his know-how made him perfect for the job."

Shue succeeded John Nash, who resigned at the end of last season and is now general manager of the Washington Bullets.

Katz also announced that Bob Weinbauer had been promoted from his position as personnel director and chief scout to assistant general manager. "He (Weinbauer) will be directly responsible to Shue," Katz said.

In six years at Washington, Shue won four division titles and reached the playoffs five times. He became coach of the Sixers following the 1972-73 season.

He took over a team which the previous year compiled a 9-73 record, the worst in NBA history.

But four seasons later, 1976-77, he coached the Sixers to 50 victories and into the NBA finals. He was replaced as coach by Billy Cunningham after six games of his fifth season in Philadelphia.

Shue then went to San Diego, where he took a team that was 27-55 the season before as the Buffalo Braves, to a 43-39 record. He was runner-up for Coach of the Year that year.

After the 1979-80 season, Shue left San Diego to return to the Bullets, where in his second season he was received his second NBA Coach of the Year award.

He remained with the Bullets for five seasons, compiling up a 232-248 record.

Australians dominate rugby game

TIMARU, New Zealand, July 25, (AP): Wingers Darren Juncie and John Flett each scored two tries today as Australia romped to a 34-0 rugby union win over a Hanan Shield Districts representative team.

Australia scored five tries and dominated the match. It was the Wallabies' first game since they lost 21-6 to New Zealand in the first Test in Christchurch last Saturday.

Prop Geoff Didier scored the other try for Australia, while fly half David Knox kicked two penalties and four conversions to take his tally to 40 points in the three tour matches in which he has played.

Spirited
The Hanan Shield combined team, made up of Second Division district and Third Division teams, gave a spirited performance, but could not match the Wallabies' slickness.

The win improved Australia's tour record to 2-3. It has lost to Waikato, Auckland and New Zealand and beaten West Coast-buller.

It next faces the Otago provincial team in Dunedin on Saturday.

The second Test in the three-Test series for the Bledisloe Cup is scheduled for August 4 in Auckland.

Four competitors tested

10 doping cases suspected

EAST BERLIN, July 25, (AP): An East German laboratory conducting doping tests has discovered 10 athletes suspected of using performance-enhancing drugs in the first half of this year, the news agency Adn reported yesterday.

The East German news agency said the results were based on preliminary urine tests that had not been subjected to a mandatory second probe when doping is suspected.

Four competitors tested

positive at international events and six more at national competitions, Adn said. It did not say where the events took place or identify the sports.

The laboratory in Kreischka conducted a total of 1,389 tests based on urine samples from athletes in the first six months of this year, Adn said.

Adn said mandatory second tests had not been conducted and none of the athletes had given statements as required when doping is suspected.



Queen Silvia (left), King Carl Gustav (centre) and Prince Philip watch the opening ceremonies. (Reuters wirephoto)

Swiss rider wins warmup event

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, July 25, (AP): Christine Stuckelberger of Switzerland won the first warmup to the World Dressage Championship yesterday, 16 months after a serious riding accident jeopardized her competitive career.

The former Olympic champion, with her stallion Gauguin de Lully, won first-place rating from all five judges in the Intermedie II class. She gained 1,147 points.

The Soviet Union, favourites for the silver medal behind the West Germans, had three riders in the top seven. Yuri Kovshov on Bouket came second with 1,101 points.

Stuckelberger was the only one of a half-dozen favourites for the individual title who competed yesterday in the warmup for the World Team Championship in Grand Prix Dressage. The team championship takes place tomorrow and Friday.

The individual final will be on Sunday.

In the vaulting — gymnastics on horseback — Diana Tyll, 16, of the United States, won the women's individual compulsory competition. Another American was third, Lana Schumacher, 18.

Sweden's King, Carl XVI Gustav opened the two-week World Equestrian Games during an hour-long show.

The \$11 million games are the first joint world championships in equestrian sport. They were proposed by Prince Philip of Britain, former president of the International Equestrian Federation.

The games are one of the biggest sport events ever in Sweden where the 1912 Olympics and the 1956 Equestrian Olympics took place.

The Olympic Stadium is the main arena. Thirteen gold medals and world titles are at stake in dressage, vaulting, show jumping and long distance riding.

Lancias fastest at start of Argentine rally

BUENOS AIRES, July 25, (Reuters): Lancia drivers took the top two honours with a 'Toyota' third fastest in a 'superspecial' prime at the start of the Argentine motor rally last yesterday.

Juha Kankkunen of Finland covered the three km

sandy course in two minutes 27 seconds on a Lancia Delta Integrale, three seconds ahead of teammate Massimo Biasion of Italy, winner of the past two world championships.

World championship leader Carlos Sainz of Spain,

who is on his second rallying season, was third one second behind Biasion.

A third Lancia team member, Didier Auriol of France, who is second in the championship standings, had the fourth best, two minutes 32

seconds.

After the superspecial prime, 100 drivers started on the first of four legs of the 2,118 km (1,324 mile) rally, including Argentine President Carlos Menem's son, Carlos Jr, who clocked the 11th best time on a Lancia.

The first leg is a 930 km (580 mile) haul on tarmac to Cordoba, a city northwest of Buenos Aires. The next three legs are due to be run on Thursday, Friday and Saturday over three different mountain courses in the province of Cordoba.

President Menem, who took part in the Argentine rally in 1987, excused himself from waving off the race saying he was still recovering from a bout of influenza.

Sainz, who during practices complained about road conditions in Cordoba, should face stiff competition from teammate Jorge Recalde, a local hero who won the 1988 Argentine rally, and Biasion, winner here in 1986 and 1987.

The 1989 rally was won by Mikael Ericsson in a Lancia. The Swede, who is now driving for Toyota, is not taking part this time.



Carlos Sainz (left) and Massimo Biasion at the start of the rally. (Reuters wirephoto)



لجانة السهل

IAAF to oppose special meeting between Johnson and Lewis

SEATTLE, Washington, July 25. (Reuters) The International Amateur Athletic Federation would frown on a 100-metre match race between world record holder Carl Lewis and disgraced Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson as has been discussed, says IAAF president Primo Nebiolo.

"We are against a competition between two people in a special meeting," Nebiolo, whose group could take action against the sprinters if

they violated IAAF wishes, told Reuters at the Goodwill Games on Monday.

"If this competition can happen during a meeting where it would be a normal race between eight athletes, it could occur," Nebiolo said.

Johnson's two-year IAAF suspension for a positive drug test ends in September and there have been hot negotiations to stage a race between the two sprinters. Some promoters

have proposed a two-man showdown in a car park in Las Vegas, others have wanted the two to run on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City.

The Lewis camp, and promoters in Spain, and Tokyo, want the race as part of a regular meeting this autumn or next spring.

Nebiolo said Johnson, who was stripped of his Olympic gold medal and world record because of the positive test, had been tested four

Drag racer trying to live as paraplegic

MIAMI, July 25. (AP) Champion drag racer Darrell Gwynn said yesterday he has laughed a little and cried a lot while trying to adjust to crash injuries that left him paralysed.

"It's a true test," said Gwynn, flanked by his mother and fiancée. "And I think we're going to make it."

The Miami driver seriously injured his neck, spine and left arm when his dragster hit a guardrail at more than 200 miles per hour (322 kilometres per hour) during a race in Bedfordshire, England, last April 15. Five weeks later, when the injuries were no longer life-threatening, Gwynn was flown to Jackson Memorial Hospital and became a patient in the Miami project to cure paralysis.

Gwynn, 28, talked with reporters at a news conference called in response to numerous interview requests. He was so eager to discuss his condition that he spoke for 10 minutes before the first question was asked.

"My inner strength has come from my friends," he said. "Since this accident I've heard from everybody I ever knew, and that's been a big part of this recovery."

Gwynn spoke in a strong, firm voice and smiled easily. He sat in a wheelchair, his large neck brace visible above his suit, dress shirt and tie. Cameras clicked as he entered the room.

"If you all thought I'm going to come here dressed like I've been hurt, you're crazy," he said. Because part of Gwynn's injured arm was amputated, his left sleeve was folded at his side. Although motion in his right arm is limited, he was able to gesture. Gwynn receives four hours of therapy daily.

"It's pretty sad what you can't do," he said. "Some of the things they have me do would take you all a minute but take me almost a full one-hour class...."

"They make us work for every single thing we do. If they give us a cookie, they hold it up in the air and make us reach for it."

This month, Gwynn began going home on weekends. He is scheduled to be released from the hospital Nov 9; until the crash, he and fiancée Lisa Hurst had planned to wed Nov 10.

"We just put that on the back burner," said Hurst 24.

Hick sets another record

Youngest player to hit 50 tons

LONDON, July 25. (AP) Zimbabwe-born Graeme Hick scored the fastest century of the English cricket season yesterday and wrote his name on another page of the record books when he replaced Sir Donald Bradman as the youngest player to hit 50 centuries.

And with an aggregate of 592 runs without being dismissed, the 24-year-old batsman is honing in on another record, the 709 hit in successive innings by Indian Khan Mohammed Ibrahim in 1947 before he was out.

Hick, who qualifies to play for England next year, followed his first innings 252 for Worcestershire against Glamorgan at Abergavenny, Wales, with an unbeaten 100 in the same game.

But Glamorgan almost spoiled Hick's celebrations and wound up contributing to another record.

In a dramatic finish to the game, the Welsh county went within two runs of beating Worcestershire, the county champion, despite needing a huge score of 495 for victory.

Glamorgan reached 493 for six when time ran out. And, although the result was a draw, the total number of runs in the game was the highest ever for a three-day game.

The second century, scored two minutes faster than Viv Richards' 81-minute hundred in May, was Hick's 50th in top-class cricket at age 24 years and two months.

Bradman, the Australian who is rated the greatest batsman ever and was knighted for his services to cricket, was the previous youngest to reach 50 when he toured England in 1934 at age 26.

Hick's name already is dotted about the English cricket record books. Two years ago he made the highest individual score in England this century, 405 in one innings for Worcestershire against Somerset.

And in 1986, he became the youngest batsman to hit 2,000 runs in one season.

Hick's match haul of 352 took him to 1,138 runs for the season at an average of 126.44.

Remarkably, Glamorgan came close after Alan Butcher and John Morris had given them a flying start with an opening stand of 256.

Butcher passed 20,000 first-class runs on his way to 130. Morris made 119.

The drawn match produced an



Graeme Hick breaks Bradman's record

aggregate of 1,641 runs, easily a record for a three-day game in Britain and only nine runs short of the four-day county record set by Surrey and Lancashire in May.

The previous highest for a three-day game was the 1,502 for the match between MCC and New Zealand at Lord's in 1927.

Middlesex consolidated their championship lead with a four-wicket win over Somerset at Uxbridge. Mike Ramprakash leading the way with a brilliant career-best 146 not out.

He hammered five sixes and 12 fours off just 133 balls as Middlesex raced to a 369-run target. Desmond Haynes hit 108, his third championship century of the season.

England captain Graham Gooch was the architect of Essex's third successive victory, his seventh first-class hundred of the season earning him a six-wicket win over Lancashire at Colchester. Gooch scored 177 off only 152 balls.

Lancashire had declared their second innings at 252 for two, with two of the season's other prolific scorers, Mike Atherton

and Neil Fairbrother, also posting hundreds.

On a day of heavy punishment for bowlers, West Indies paceman Malcolm Marshall redressed some of the balance by taking seven for 47, including a crucial spell of four for three in 14 balls, to earn Hampshire a 48-run win over Derbyshire at Portsmouth.

Marshall, who bagged all his wickets in a 51-ball spell for 17 runs, had match figures of 10 for 407.

Results
At Portsmouth: Hampshire beat Derbyshire by 48 runs. Hampshire 307 in 78.2 overs and 227 (T. Middleton 59). Derbyshire 300 for six declared in 83.2 overs and 186 (K. Barnett 63, P. Bowler 56, M. Marshall seven for 47). Hampshire 22 points Derbyshire eight.

At Guildford: Surrey v Kent match drawn. Kent 372 in 90.2 overs and 329 (G. Cowdrey 119 not out, D. Ward 88; K. Medcalf five for 99). Surrey 344 for seven declared in 106.3 overs and 17 for no wicket. Surrey eight points Kent six.

At Cheltenham: Gloucester-

shire v Yorkshire match drawn. Yorkshire 451 for six declared in 99 overs and 219 for three declared (R. Blakey 94, P. Robinson 70 not out). Gloucestershire 574 in 153.1 overs (P. Bainbridge 152, C. Walsh 63 not out; J. Batty four for 137). Gloucestershire six points Yorkshire five.

At Northampton: Northamptonshire v Sussex match drawn. Northamptonshire 329 for four declared in 98 overs and 361 for five declared (R. Bailey 204 not out, D. Ripley 44 not out, N. Felton 42). Sussex 302 for eight declared in 86.1 overs and 251 for seven (A. Wells 102 not out). Northamptonshire seven points Sussex five.

At Abergavenny: Glamorgan v Worcestershire match drawn. Worcestershire 514 for four declared in 97.2 overs and 307 for one declared (T. Curtis 111 not out, G. Hick 100 not out). Glamorgan 327 for five declared in 69.1 overs and 493 for six (A. Butcher 130, H. Morris 119, R. Croft 91 not out, N. Cowley 63). Glamorgan five points Worcestershire six.

At Colchester: Essex beat Lancashire by six wickets. Lancashire 395 for nine declared in 100.4 overs and 252 for two declared (N. Fairbrother 109 not out, M. Atherton 108 not out). Essex 300 for nine declared in 84.1 overs and 351 for four (G. Gooch 177, J. Stephenson 60, M. Waugh 58). Essex 24 points Lancashire eight.

At Uxbridge: Middlesex beat Somerset by four wickets. Somerset 445 for six declared in 147 overs and 228 for four declared (J. Cook 85, C. Tavaré 61). Middlesex 305 for four declared in 67.4 overs and 371 for six (M. Ramprakash 146 not out, D. Haynes 108; N. Mallender four for 60). Middlesex 20 points Somerset four.

Standings
English County Championship cricket table after matches ending on Tuesday (table underlined, win, loss, draw, batting points, bowling points, total):
Middlesex 12 7 0 5 38 28 178
Hampshire 12 5 1 6 40 22 142
Lancashire 13 4 2 7 37 34 135
Derbyshire 14 4 5 5 41 30 135
Warwickshire 13 4 3 6 28 37 129
Nottingham 12 4 2 6 34 33 121
Somerset 11 4 1 6 38 18 120
Surrey 13 2 2 9 34 38 112
Gloucestershire 14 3 3 8 37 26 111
Northants 12 3 6 5 37 38 107
Sussex 12 3 4 5 35 22 106
Yorkshire 13 2 6 5 30 30 92
Worcestershire 11 2 1 8 30 23 85
Somerset 11 4 1 6 30 24 85
Essex 12 3 4 5 30 24 84
Kent 12 2 4 6 35 17 84
Gloucester 13 0 6 7 24 31 55



Imran slams Australian players

Imran critical of Australian team

SYDNEY, Australia, July 25. (AP) Pakistan cricket captain Imran Khan today criticised Australian cricketers for their use of foul language and abusive on-field behaviour.

The trend is more prevalent in Australia than in other cricket-playing countries, Imran said in an interview with the SBS television network.

"I've said to say in Australia I've seen this growing trend much more than in other countries," Imran said.

"Some of the Australian cricketers feel, and quite misguidedly, that to be aggressive and to be competitive they have to swear."

"I find that really a bit silly and I don't think it does much for the game, because, in the end, it begins to cause bad blood between the teams."

Aggressive
"It is unnecessary, because they're wrong if they think by swearing (they) look aggressive."

"The most aggressive team in

the world I've played against were the West Indians and you hardly ever hear anyone swear."

"I accept that in the heat of the moment in cricket there are words exchanged, always have been, but what I disagree with is a bland or continual verbal abuse going on in a game and I just detest that immensely."

Imran admitted the Pakistan team also had players guilty of abusive behaviour.

"We've got one or two players in our team, for instance Javed (Miandad). He tries on verbal action on the field which gets his adrenalin going, something like John McEnroe. He actually raises his game by verbal exchange with the other team."

"But on the whole the players don't like it. You can tell when a bowler is aggressive — you don't have to swear."

Australian Cricket Board chief executive David Richards declined to respond to Imran's comments.

Gullit looks forward to new season

MILAN, Italy, July 25. (Reuters) After the saddest season in his soccer career, Ruud Gullit is a happy man again.

The Dutch international, who played only a handful of games for European Cup holders AC Milan last season because of a knee injury, said he was feeling great and looking forward to the coming season.

"I feel full of spirit, convinced I can do well, keen to find myself again," he said after returning from his holidays to begin pre-season training with the Italian club.

It was all a far cry from last season. "I arrived at the get-together extremely late, my car broke down on the motorway," the dreadlocked Dutchman recalled.

"It was a kind of foretaste of all that happened later, the saddest season of my career."

"I'm happy to have arrived on time this time, even from the symbolic point of view," he said after receiving a warm welcome from fans at the Milan players' get-together on Monday.

Gullit, whose knee had looked on the mend during his appearances for the Netherlands in the World Cup finals, said he was on the way to a full recovery, although it would take time.

"I'm so, so pleased. The knee's great. The doctor said there was something miraculous in such a quick recovery."

He said he could be in good shape in two months and at his best in four. The league season starts in September.

Milan's two other Dutch internationals, Marco van Basten and Frank Rijkaard, will join the squad at the end of the month.

"My foreigners have played together in only 13 matches in two years," said coach Arrigo Sacchi.

"I've only had my team at their maximum potential for six months, and during that period we got some outstanding results — 4-0 against Juventus, 5-1 to Ascoli, 4-1 over Bologna, 5-0 against Real Madrid, 4-0 to Steaua (Bucharest)."

Sacchi put his side below international and big spenders Juventus, who paid a world record \$13 million for Roberto Baggio, and champions Napoli as favourites for the Italian title.

But he said he was confident Milan's spirit and talent would keep the team among the world's best sides.

'Fight against hooliganism being won'

LONDON, July 25. (UPI) Britain's new Minister for Sport Robert Atkins believes the fight against soccer hooliganism is being won — with help from the England national team's recent World Cup performance in Italy.

Atkins who took over from Colin Moynihan in Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's ministerial reshuffle Monday, said he would start taking his 11-year-old son to matches again.

Atkins said: "I was concerned about aspects of the game, but I am delighted with the sort of image created by England winning the Fair Play Award in Italy."

"My son was proud to be associated with the team and I hope all football fans feel the same way."

"I believe we are over the worst with hooliganism and I shall certainly start taking James to matches again."

Atkins has set higher standards of sportsmanship and improved facilities for youngsters as two major aims.

Mexico wants to quit Concacaf

MEXICO CITY, July 25. (AP) Mexico wants to withdraw from the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Federations (Concacaf) and join the South American Soccer Federation, the government newspaper El Nacional said yesterday.

"Everyone knows the best soccer is played in South America and we believe that Mexico is good enough to compete in this region," Jesus Leynos, president of the Mexican Soccer Federation, told the newspaper.

The South American Federation stages the America Cup, a biennial competition among South American countries, and the Libertadores Cup, an annual tournament among South American clubs.

Menotti to join Uruguayan soccer club

MONTEVIDEO, July 25. (Reuters) Cesar Luis Menotti, who led Argentina to victory in the 1978 World Cup, is to join top Uruguayan soccer club Penarol.

Club official Amadis Errico said Menotti, Argentina's coach between 1974 and 1982, would sign a one-year contract today.

"We can say Menotti is 99 per cent Penarol's coach. We have only to fix a few details," Errico said.

Penarol officials hope Menotti will help to revive the local fans' interest in soccer, which has dwindled after the country's uninspired showing in the World Cup in Italy.

In a newspaper interview published in Buenos Aires yesterday, Menotti said that barring last-minute snags he hoped to take charge of Penarol on Friday.

He would replace Uruguayan coach Roberto Fleitas who quit last week.

■ Belgian World Cup defender Georges Grun was transferred from Anderlecht to Italian First Division club Parma for \$5 million Swiss francs (\$2.16 million), Belgian radio reported yesterday.

Grun, 28, signed a two-year contract with Parma, which was promoted into the Italian First Division for this coming season, BRT Dutch-language radio announced.

Tigers score easy victory over Orioles

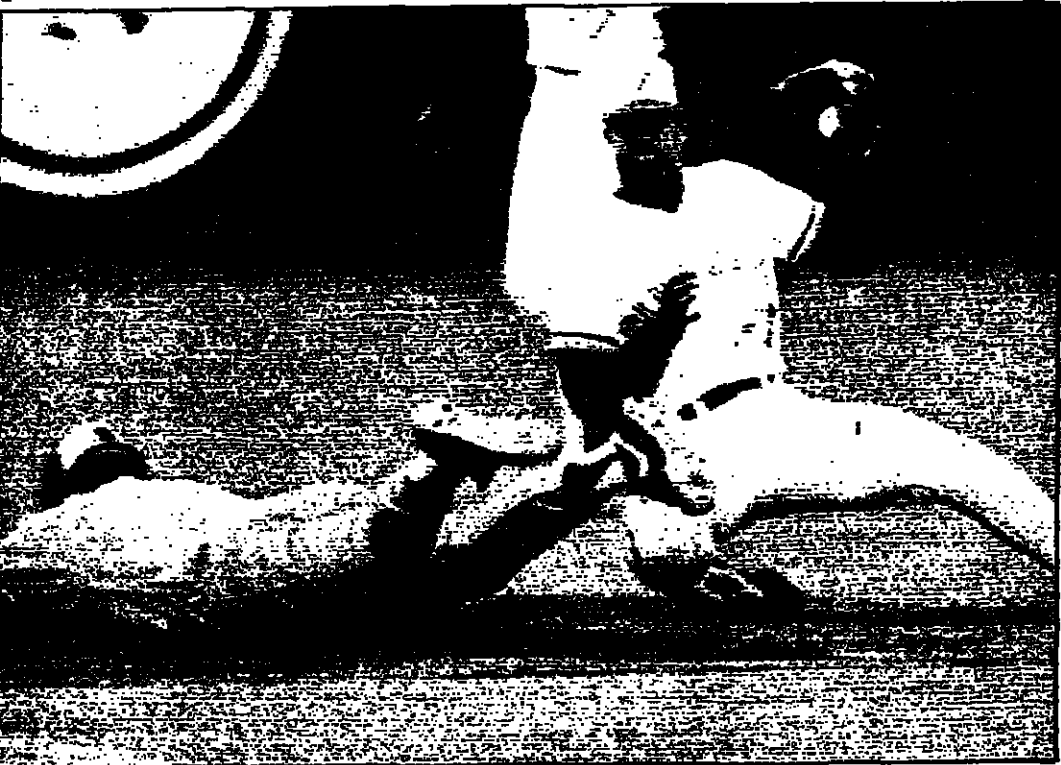
DETROIT, July 25. (AP) Detroit Tiger's Jeff Robinson lost a no-hitter on Mike Devereaux's lead off homer in the eighth inning, but wound up with an 8-2 victory over Baltimore Orioles last night following a four-homer barrage in an American League baseball game.

Robinson, held his no-hit spell until Devereaux blasted one of his pitches off the facing of the second deck in right field at Tiger Stadium, his fifth of the season. Brady Anderson promptly followed with another homer, his first, for all the Orioles' runs off the big right-hander.

Robinson got more than

enough support from the Tigers' long-ball attack that featured three RBI each by Lloyd Moseby and Larry Sheets. Cecil Fielder, Moseby, Sheets and Travis Fryman all hit home runs.

John Mitchell, 2-3, was the loser.
Mariners 6, Twins 2
No. 9 hitter Omar Vizquel



Royals' Bill Peacock (left) dives into second base as Blue Jays' Nelson Lirio tries to make the tag. (Reuters wirephoto)

knocked in a career-high five runs with a three-run homer and a two-run double, and Matt Young pitched a six-hitter for eight innings as the Seattle Mariners beat the Minnesota Twins 8-2.

Vizquel broke open a scoreless game in the fifth with his second home run of the season. Vizquel, whose previous career-high RBI game was two, capped a five-run Seattle sixth with a double.

David West (5-7), who gave up eight runs on 10 hits in 5 2-3 innings, was the loser.

Royals 5, Blue Jays 3
Hot-hitting George Brett's two-run homer in the 13th inning lifted the Kansas City Royals to a 5-3 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays.

Jim Eisenreich singled with one out off loser Duane Ward (1-6) before Brett followed with his fifth homer of the year, over the centre field wall. Earlier, Brett extended his hitting streak to 14 games, and he's 25-for-58 (.431) in that span.

Steve Farr (8-4) pitched the last three innings, allowing one hit, for the win.

Toronto took a 2-0 lead into the ninth, but Mike MacFarlane's two-out, two-run homer keyed a three-run rally for the Royals. Toronto forced extra innings when Tony Fernandez tripled and scored on George Bell's single.

Brewers 6, Red Sox 5
Mike Felder singled in the win-

ning run in the 10th inning as the Milwaukee Brewers beat the Boston Red Sox 6-5.

Darryl Hamilton opened the 10th with a single off Jerry Reed (2-2) and moved to second on a sacrifice by Greg Brock before scoring on Felder's single to centre.

The loss was the Red Sox' fourth straight and 15th in their last 20.

Dan Plesac (2-3) was the winner despite giving up Wade Boggs' game-tying two-run triple in the ninth.

Mets 7, Phillies 4
Mackey Sasser hit a pair of two-run homers as the New York Mets rallied to beat the Philadelphia Phillies 7-4 last night.

The Mets trailed 4-0 when Howard Johnson walked to open the seventh and Sasser followed with a homer off starter Pat Combs.

New York scored four more runs in the eighth to take a 6-4 lead.

Results
American League
Detroit 8 Baltimore 2
Kansas City 5 Toronto 3
Chicago 8 Cleveland 2
Seattle 8 Minnesota 2
Milwaukee 6 Boston 5
Texas 4 New York 1
Oakland 5 California 3
National League
(1) Atlanta 9 Houston 3
(2) Atlanta 9 Houston 3
Pittsburgh 5 Montreal 3
New York 7 Philadelphia 4
St. Louis 9 Chicago 4
San Diego 10 Cincinnati 0
Los Angeles 9 San Francisco 2



Havelange (left) with Keough

Fifa sponsorship renewed

ROME, July 25: The Coca-Cola Company signed an agreement recently with the Federation Internationale de Football Association (Fifa) to continue its sponsorship of the Fifa/Coca-Cola Cup World Youth Championship and the Fifa/Coca-Cola World Football Development Programme into the year 2000.

The Fifa/Coca-Cola Cup Championship, played every two years using the former World Cup structure of 16 qualifiers, is the world championship for players under 20 years and is regarded by Fifa as the next most important international football competition after the World Cup. In 1989, the Fifa/Coca-Cola Cup was won by Portugal in Saudi Arabia.

The Fifa/Coca-Cola World Football Development Programme, first sponsored by the Coca-Cola Company in 1976, included Fifa developed and run seminars and academies in which top Fifa instructors share the latest techniques in administration and organisations, coaching, refereeing and sports medicine. Instructors come from developed football countries to share combined insight and experience with all of Fifa's member nations all over the world. Fifa currently has 166 member nations.

"The Coca-Cola Company is honoured to assist Fifa and Dr Havelange to bring the magnificent game of football to so many young people around the world," said Donald R. Keough, president and chief operating officer of the Coca-Cola Company. "Football is truly the world's game and Coca-Cola is the world's soft drink, so we couldn't be happier about our partnership."

"Our friend and partner, the Coca-Cola Company, has adopted our plans as its own and has been at our side for more than 15 years," said Dr Joao Havelange, president of Fifa. "Its well-known involvement and business interests in almost every country of the world make the Coca-Cola Company the perfect teammate. I am extremely grateful to have the people of the Coca-Cola Company and its bottlers at our side as we promote the universal language — football — cherished by us all."

Ryashkina sets world record

Soviets brush aside US



Ryashkina (left) celebrates her world record. Right: The Soviets jump in joy after they beat the American basketball team (Reuters wirephoto)



SEATTLE, July 25, (UPI): The Soviet Union beat the United States yet again on the basketball court last night and cried foul in the arena of international diplomacy over the loss of a hockey player.

In their first meeting since the 1988 Olympics, the Soviets used the three-point shooting of their lone holdover from that competition to down the United States in the Goodwill Games, 92-85.

The United States must now beat Italy this evening to win a spot in the medal round and thus keep alive its chances for the gold. If the United States does not earn a rematch in the gold medal game, the contest would take place next Sunday evening.

Away from the games, however, the Soviets suffered a loss to their ice hockey squad and they did not like it at all.

Sergei Fedorov, a centre on the Soviet ice hockey squad who left his teammates Sunday, surfaced yesterday in Detroit where the Red Wings of the NHL said he had signed a five-year contract.

Detroit drafted Fedorov last year.

That action enraged the first vice-president of the Soviet Ice Hockey Federation, Yuri Korolev.

"Having this happen on the eve of the Goodwill Games," Korolev said, "is like a spoonful of tar in a barrel full of honey. It was something like the Wild West. They stole our player."

Circumstances

"It (the defection) was premeditated. The plans were not made by Fedorov. The plans were made by the recruiters (Red Wings). He could have left under normal circumstances (as part of an agreement between the Soviet Union and the NHL). What upsets me the most is the thievery, the way he was stolen. It drives a wedge in the relationship between the NHL and the Soviet Union."

Other than the basketball match-up and the political squabble, the games were highlighted yesterday by the third gold-medal performance from Summer Sanders and the fourth from Matt Biondi in the swimming pool and a world record in the women's 10-kilometre walk by the Soviet Union's Nadezhda Ryashkina. Ryashkina travelled the distance in 41 minutes, 56.25 seconds, besting the previous mark of 41:25.2 by Kerry Saxby of Australia two months ago.

Speciality

Michael Johnson, meanwhile, continued his climb among the world's elite in the 200-metre dash by winning his speciality and defeating Olympic bronze medalist Robson da Silva of Brazil. Johnson ran a 20.54 into a stiff wind last night. He owns the best time in the world this year — a 19.85.

After yesterday's 15 medal events, the United States had won 31 golds and 82 overall while the Soviet Union had 74 medals, 26 of which were gold.

The US-Soviet basketball game was a fast-paced, physical, entertaining contest filled with streaks. The United States,

however, ran out of runs midway through the second half.

"I thought the Soviets played an outstanding game," said Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski, who is in charge of the American team. "They played brilliantly. They shot better than 50 per cent at three-point range and that was the difference."

"I hope we can rebound because tomorrow is our most important game. The winner in that one goes to the semifinals and when you get to the semifinals you are 0-0."

The United States jumped to a 10-3 lead, the Soviet Union went on a 17-4 run that eventually put the United States into a time-point hole. The last eight points of the first half were scored by the United States to give the US side a 45-42 lead, but the Soviets scored the first six of the second half.

Although the United States stayed within striking distance through the first 10 minutes of the second half, the United States was never a threat down the stretch.

The United States and the Soviet Union will see a lot of each other during the upcoming weeks. In addition to a possible Goodwill Games rematch in the medal round, they could meet in the World Championships in Argentina next month.

The United States won the basketball World Championships when they were last played four years ago, but in the only two Olympic basketball meetings between the countries in the last 18 years, the Soviets have won both.

The Soviets won before a packed house at the 13,901-seat Seattle Centre Coliseum behind their long-range shooting. They hit 8 of 15 from three-point range to 3 of 13 for the US side. Valeri Tikhonenko, who played on the Soviet 1988 Olympic team, scored 30 points for the Soviets. The United States was led by Alonzo Mourning of Georgetown with 20.

Biondi, meanwhile, won two gold medals at the pool last night in the 100-metre freestyle and as a member of the United States' 400-metre medley relay team.

Sanders, 17, who has emerged as one of the United States' newest swimming stars, won her third gold medal in the 200-metre butterfly — where she reduced her previous best time by a second and a half.

Standings	G	S	B	T
United States	31	31	21	83
Soviet Union	26	28	20	74
East Germany	10	5	21	36
West Germany	3	2	3	8
China	1	3	2	6
Netherlands	1	1	4	6
Cuba	3	1	1	5
Australia	0	3	2	5
Spain	2	2	0	4
Italy	1	2	1	4
Hungary	1	1	1	3
Romania	0	2	1	3
Poland	2	0	0	2
Canada	1	0	0	2
Brazil	0	1	1	2
Czechoslovakia	1	0	0	1
Denmark	1	0	0	1
Jamaica	1	0	0	1
Mexico	1	0	0	1
Suriname	1	0	0	1
Ethiopia	1	0	0	1
Kenya	0	1	0	1
Great Britain	0	0	1	1
Ireland	0	0	1	1
Japan	0	0	1	1



Andrei Nazarov, of the Soviet Union, screams while flying through the air during the longjump portion of men's decathlon at the Goodwill Games. (Reuters wirephoto)



Australian swimmer Glen Housman looks at his cut heel during the Goodwill Games' 1,500m race. (Reuters wirephoto)



E. Germany's Jorg Hoffman swims to victory in the Goodwill Games, 1,500m swim event. (Reuters wirephoto)

W. German soccer gets a boost

BONN, July 25, (Reuters): World Cup success has fired West German enthusiasm for soccer, boosting ticket sales and attracting lucrative sponsorship deals ahead of the new season.

Despite the absence of seven of the country's World Cup winning stars who play in Italy, First Division teams are reporting record season ticket sales and a queue of sponsors hoping to cash in on the nation's euphoria.

Defending champions Bayern Munich have signed a new 15 million mark (\$10 million) three-year contract with their major sponsors Opel and Willi Lemke, manager of Werder Bremen, said money was pouring in.

"In the new season we are expecting a six-figure increase (in revenue)," he said.

Bayern, cup winners Kaiserslautern, Bayer Leverkusen and even Hamburg, who narrowly missed relegation last year, all report season ticket sales up.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Sheraton bridge

RESULTS of Sheraton bridge game held on Tuesday:

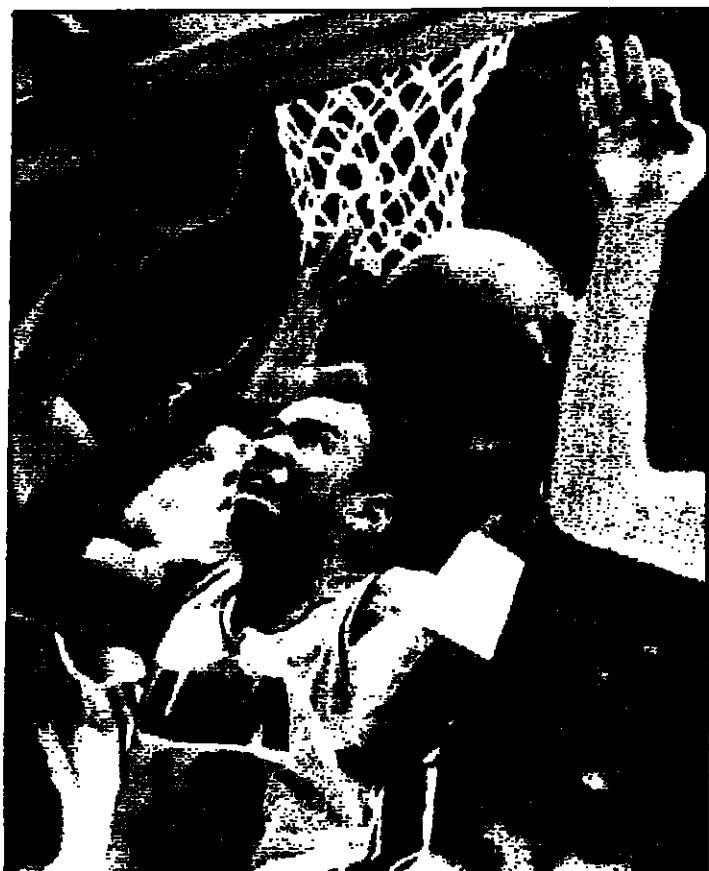
- N/S
1. Adly Tiah & El Baz
2. Sherin & Salman Ali
3. Sabri & Saad
E/W
1. Nizar & Ikram
2. Ravi & Mukherjee
3. Sapre & Mrs Periera
A team of four bridge will be held on Friday at the Sheraton Hotel at 3.00 pm.

YMCA tourney

YOUNG Men Cultural Association (YMCA) will be organising three cricket tournaments at the Riqqa Grounds behind the Riqqa Vegetable Market during the 1990-91 season. The tournaments are: Goodyear Al Maillem Cricket Tournament, Rothmans Royals Cricket Tournament and Kuwait-India International Exchange Company Cricket Tournament. The tournaments will commence in September and the draws will be held in mid-August. For entries call organiser, Freddy Fernandes on Tel. 3924393.

Karpov ahead

BIENNE, Switzerland, July 25, (AP): Anatoly Karpov made short shrift of fellow Soviet Lev Polugnevsky yesterday, widening his lead in the International Grandmasters Chess Tournament.



US' Chris Gatling goes up for a basket. (Reuters wirephoto)



An action shot of the Spain-Australia basketball match at the Goodwill Games yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Inmates prepare for Rose's arrival

MARION, Illinois, July 25, (AP): Pete Rose will be arriving soon at a federal prison camp to begin a five-month sentence, and that's welcome news to the inmates. They're already taking bets on whether they can sign him to a prison softball team.

"Everyone here wants to meet him and talk to him," said Mark Bailey, an East Chicago, Indiana, native finishing the last two weeks of a seven-month sentence.

"We don't know if we want Pete Rose on the team. The other guys might quit," said William "Catfish" Hass, an inmate who manages the Undertakers, one of five or six prison softball teams.

Rose was sentenced to the federal prison camp at Marion after his conviction on two counts of filing false income tax returns that did not report his income from gambling and

baseball card shows.

Baseball's all-time hits leader and a former Cincinnati Reds manager must report to the camp by Aug. 10. His attorneys have said Rose wants to report as soon as he heals from knee surgery he underwent Friday.

No arrival date has been set, said assistant warden Randy Davis. Rose spokeswoman Barbara Pinzka said yesterday in Cincinnati that the reporting

date will not be announced.

The prison camp is next to, but separate, from the nation's toughest federal penitentiary.

The camp has a softball diamond, weight room and tennis, handball, basketball and bocce ball courts. About 200 inmates are housed in a year-old, art deco style dormitory surrounded by manicured lawns and flower beds.

YMCA rout Falcon

YMCA scored a dramatic 9-wicket victory over Falcon Cricket Club recently in the Summer League cricket tournament, organised by Gulf Cricket League.

Arun Nair was the hero of YMCA's success with an unbeaten 64 in 34 balls with a partnership of 58 runs with Bitto for the first wicket and the victory partnership of 62 runs with Chris Michael.

Bitto and Arun opened the innings for YMCA and laid a solid foundation, hitting every ball for quick runs between wickets. In the third over, Arun got 14 runs off Iqbal's over, cutting a four and hooking him for six to long leg.

When the score was 58 in 7 overs, Maqsood had Bitto caught at mid-wicket by Khalid. Bitto contributed 23 runs with 2 fours. At the fall of his wicket, Chris came and took some time to settle down but saw victory, passing Falcon's score in the 17th over. Chris Michael was unbeaten on 29 runs with 2 fours and Arun Nair unbeaten on 64 runs with 1 six and 7 fours off 34 balls.

Bowling figures for Falcon: Iqbal 2 overs 25 runs, Maqsood 6 overs 36 runs 1 wicket, Zahid 4 overs 27 runs, Haider 3 overs 18 runs, Tariq 2 overs 23 runs.

Earlier, Falcon won the toss and batted first, opening with Zahid and Iqbal. YMCA opened

the bowling with Manoj who had Zahid caught by Darryl for 8 runs. Haider and Iqbal took the score to 77 runs when Arun brought his spinners Ashok and Bitto.

Bitto had Haider caught by Arun for 29 runs with 2 fours. In the 4th over, Bitto bowled Iqbal for 44 with 6 fours. After the dismissal of Iqbal Falcon didn't last long and scored 119 runs for 6 wickets in 19 overs.

YMCA bowling figures: Manoj 4 overs - 19 runs 1 wicket, Anu 4 overs 30 runs, Ashok 5 overs - 18 runs, Bitto 5 overs - 34 runs 3 wicket and Chris 3 overs - 18 runs - 1 wicket.

So far in this tournament

YMCA in their early matches have won 7 games lost 1 and two are still to be played with Brothers and Rangers.

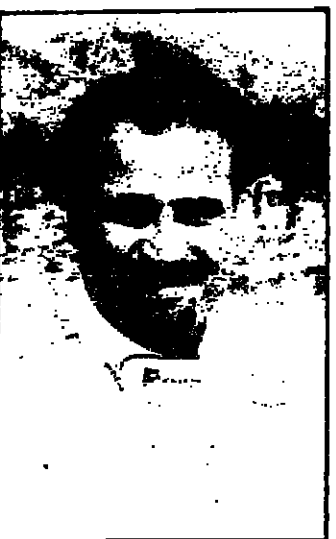
England will have to make a choice between Phillip DeFreitas and Chris Lewis as their third seamer and the latter's four for 127 in helping them to victory over New Zealand in the Edgbaston Test must just tip the scales his way.

They look certain to stick to their recent policy of playing six batsmen, which at last means a belated first cap for Derbyshire's John Morris, coming in at number six in place of the injured Alec Stewart.

But it is India's brilliant 17-year-old Sachin Tendulkar many of the crowd will be there to see. He scored only a total of 50 in the two one-day internationals but in an exciting, uninhibited style that promises much for the future.

England's record at cricket's headquarters should also give the visitors cause for optimism. They have lost five of their last 10 Tests there since 1984.

As well as losing twice each to Australia and West Indies in that period, England were also beaten by India by five wickets the last time they met at Lord's in 1986.



Saeed Al Hajri

JORDAN, July 25: As contestants made themselves ready for Jordan's BP2000 Desert Raid, the vehicle scrutineering session in Amman today gave many the chance to reflect on their time spent in training for the two day event.

"Here we have a superb event, real desert racing with flat out driving, but also a skillful test with many of the stages for Thursday held over narrow twisty and rocky tracks close to the Dead Sea," said Qatari Saeed Al Hajri the Desert Challenge championship leader, who is driving for the Rothmans Ford Desert Racing Team.

Al Hajri is looking forward to unleashing the 450 wild stallions trapped in the cylinders of his V8 engine Rothmans Ford Racing Team Bronco. Such power is unheard of on the desert racing scene, yet Al Hajri, as past Middle East rally champion is well suited to controlling the "mean machine."

The Jordan Desert Raid will be a landmark

in this year's series, for it sees the Ford name appear for the first time in the Hashemite kingdom and witnesses Al Hajri with a new, world class, co-driver, Fred Gallagher. Fred has won the tough Safari Rally in Kenya three times and has a long list of World Rally Championship successes behind him. "This is my first time with Saeed, but after what I've seen in training, we are hopeful of success here in Jordan. The car has a new automatic gearbox fitted. It is the same type used by the desert racers in America and can easily cope with the 450 horsepower of the Rothmans Ford Bronco."

The crowds that had gathered in Amman for today's official scrutineering session could only marvel as the engine of the Rothmans "mean machine" started and belled through the special side mounted exhaust. "We have managed to lose some weight from the 'mean machine' back at our UK workshops," said Rothmans Ford Team boss,

David Sutton, who has built cars that have won the World Championship with Ford. "I think that 450 horsepower will be enough at the moment, but we already have a full 600 horsepower racing engine on the test bench in England."

Thursday sees the start of this two day spectacle of motor sport. A prologue section is first on the menu with drivers charging flat out over a stage at a secret location to establish their starting order for the Desert Raid.

The event rests for a few hours before starting in earnest tomorrow evening. The route takes in four special speed tests in the region between Amman and the Dead Sea. Cars return to Amman overnight for a break, then re-start on Friday morning for the real meet of the event — four speed tests, a pair of 77 kms long and two of 44 kms, all south of the capital city before returning to the evening finish in Amman.

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